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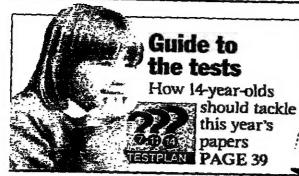
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No. 65,540

FRIDAY MARCH 29 1996







The mother of all freeloads Clement Freud goes racing in Dubai PAGE 16



SUPPLEMENT

the respondent is off the

Last night, Ms Bamber expressed her delight at Mr

Lamb's verdict and predicted

that many other women would now take action against the bank. "It is an unprece-

dented amount of aggravated damages and I am told it is a

record, apart from the recent

Ministry of Defence maternity

cases," she said. "The tribunal

came down on Fuji like a ton

of bricks. The panel were all

quite mild mannered and they

admitted they had never seen

anything like it when Fuji

were in full flow."

Ms Barnber, who said she

was now happy in a new job.

added: "It was a savagely

fought case on their part. And

it has been extremely traumat-

ic for me, but now I have won I

fortune on fighting this case

and resorted to inventing a

conspiracy theory that I was

only doing this to try to extort

money from them. They were

desperate not to let me win

because, apart from anything

else, they know it will open the

floodgates for other women to

Fuji spent an estimated £500,000 on fighting the case

and at least one other former

employee is poised to take

similar action, according to a

egal source. A spokeswoman

for the bank said: "We are

astonished at the size of the

award and the legal grounds

on which is was made. We

await the tribunal's written

decision and will consider our

In addition to the aggravat-

ed damages, the tribunal

awarded Ms Bamber £20,000

for loss of earnings while still

working for Fuji. £12,000 in

carnings lost since leaving Continued on page 2. col I

position at that time."

They spent an absolute

feel completely vindicated.

Japanese bank

pays woman

£81,000 for

insulting her

By Joanna Bale and Emma Wilkins

A CITY bond dealer who

claimed that the world's biggest bank set out to wreck her

reputation and her career after she took it to an industrial tribunal was awarded com-pensation of £81,000

yesterday.

The figure included "off the

scale" aggravated damages against the Fuji bank, which

was denounced by the tribu-

nal chairman as malevolent,

spiteful and deeply insulting.

brought a case claiming that

she had been passed over for

promotion and pay rises be-fore being forced to resign

after rejecting her boss's advances, welcomed the judg-ment as vindication of her

"David and Goliath" struggle.

This is a day of shame for Fuji, she said. I am looking

forward to going back to my job in the City with head held

Yesterday's award included

£20,000 in aggravated dam-

ages for the way the bank

treated Ms Bamber after she

won her case for sexual dis-

crimination last November.

Claims for unfair dismissal

tricks campaign against her, trying to ruin her reputation

in the City and wreck her chances of a career with

another bank by writing to its

lan Lamb, chairman of the

agreed. He said that the letter

was mischievous and was sent

factors which fall fully within

Helen Bamber, 32, who had

Major to ask EU to end blockade

Emergency ban on sale of at-risk cattle

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHARLES BREMNER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

AN EMERGENCY ban on the sale of meat from cattle most at risk of "mad cow" disease was announced last night as John Major prepared to appeal to his European partners to lift the worldwide blockade on British beef as soon as possible.

Unveiling the first moves in the Government's increasingly irenzied efforts to restore public confidence in the beef industry, Douglas Hogg promised a £1.5 million a week special subsidy for renderers disposing of waste from slaughterhouses and £50 million to prop up beef prices.

The Agriculture Minister also barred the sale of meat from cattle aged over 30 months - those thought to be at greatest risk of carrying infection - until new abattoir safeguards come into in operation. Whitehall officials said that it could become permanent depending on the out-Brussels.

Ministers want farmers to keep such cattle on their farms and use them for dairy pro-duction where possible. Details of any compensation package will have to wait.

Other measures will include a premiums of just over £100a-head for calves from dairy herds slaughtered before reaching 10 days of age and a ban from tomorrow on the manufacture of feed for farm animals using mammalian meat and bonemeal. The use of bonemeal in agricultural fertilisers will also be banned, but that be delayed because the law requires consultation. The legislation should be ready for introduction in a couple of weeks.

Mr Hogg told MPs that the extra payments to farmers and renderers would reach them as quickly as possible. The future of this essential part of British agriculture depends on a restoration of public confidence. British beef is sale and can be eaten with confidence. I believe that is an opinion that can safely be put to the British

people."
The Prime Minister will tell European leaders in Turin this morning that the EU's

ressive think

Matthew Parris is top columnist

Matthew Parris, columnist Times, was named columnist of the year at the annual British Press Awards last night. The judges praised him as a "brilliant observer of

The Times on the Internet http://www.the-times.co.uk



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ban on British beef exports should go as soon as the Government has brought in a package of measures agreed with Brussels to tackle the

European Commission counterparts in Brussels to discuss what compensation the Com-munity should pay Europe British farmers if the Government adopted a policy of selective slaughter.

needed for Europe to release the cash and yesterday Germany followed France in promising to make sure spe-cial funds were cleared. "Solidarity also means money and over and above that which



Hogg: "essential to restore confidence"

the EU would be obliged to pay in any case," Karl Lamers, a powerful figure in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's parliamentury group, said. President Chirac had earlier telephoned Mr Major to express French solidarity with Britain over the problems it was facing.

Mr Major meanwhile continued to maintain that the export ban was "totally without justification" and he told MPs that he would be making that case vigorously in Turin. Speaking after the Cabinet had spent an hour debating how to restore public confi-dence, he said: "It is essential that decisions of this sort are

basis of rational judgments. on the basis of science and not

> SATURDAY IN THETIMES

As the summit gets under way Ministry of Agriculture officials will be meeting their

A decision at leaders' level is



taken by member states on the

on any other basis, as I believe

them to have been taken on this particular occasion. I will most certainly be making our feelings clear tomorrow,

Mr Major again clashed with Tony Blair over the issue. ridiculing an eight-point pack-age of proposals put forward by Labour as a piece of PR nonsense. "Labour is considering votes. We are considerthe industry and the national interest."

But Mr Blair said he had never heard anything "quite so pathetic" from the Prime Minister, adding: "Would you

for once stop trying to shirk responsibility and take it."
Today Mr Major will remind the other European leaders that the crisis is problem for the rest of European lem for the rest of Europe as well as Britain and that the lifting of the export ban should be seen as part of the confidence-building package that is

Under the terms of the ban on Wednesday it could be six weeks before veterinary officials reconvene to consider eas-ing the ban. But British ministers believe that the scale of the ban, affecting such a wide range of by-products, means it should be lifted well

Today's summit, called to launch the start of the intergovernmental conference on the future of the European Union, has been completely overshadowed by the the beef

But British officials underlined that Mr Major's attitude towards the meeting - including his opposition to any further weakening of the veto and extra powers for the European Parliament and his tough line on the European Court of Justice - would not be affected by his desire to reach a good deal on compensation. There is no linkage, a senior British official said last night.

Labour attacked, page 12 Cash relief, page 13 On the frontline, page 17 John Redwood, page 18 Diary, page 18 Leading article, page 19 Letters, page 19



Soldiers guilty of Cyprus killing

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

THREE British soldiers were last night found guilty of kidnapping and killing a 23-year-old Danish tour guide in

Delivering a 167-page judg-ment, Judge Takis Eliades said the three Royal Green Jackets had carried out a "decisive, planned and co-

ordinated" attack on Louise Jensen. "Violence was used from the outset when a military spade was used to chase away her boyfriend and it was the same spade that was used to kill the victim." the court

was told. Allan Ford, 27, Justin Fowler, 28, and Geoffrey Pernell, 24, sat handcuffed in the tiny dock at Larnaca Assizes as the three judges

eight-month trial. They face life sentences for manslaugh-

The soldiers, who had made 100 court appearances over 19 months, looked exhausted by the time they learnt of their fate, 1212 hours after the summing-up began.

The night Louise died, page 3

transfer from the Royal Elec-trical and Mechanical Engi-

neers to the Household

Cavalry was cancelled when it was discovered he was black. The CRE commissioners who investigated the House-

hold Cavalry decided there

were sufficient grounds for

serving a non-discrimination

notice on the regiment under the 1976 Race Relations Act, a

move which Herman Ouseley,

chairman of the commission

said was an action of "last

resort". The cavalry was given

12 months to introduce the

proper anti-discrimination

The CRE was dissuaded

from issuing the notice by the MoD which said it would

harm attempts to encourage

ethnic minority recruits. The

ministry also agreed an action

plan aimed at stamping out racism in the Army and the

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Household Cavalry ordered to learn gentle art of non-discrimination

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

EVERY member of the Household Cavalry has been ordered to attend race relations classes as part of train-ing, following a damning report on racial discrimination in the unit.

Under\a plan agreed be-tween the Ministry of Defence and the Commission for Racial Equality, the Household Cavalry will be instructed in the art of non-discrimination, including appropriate lan-guage when talking to mem-bers of ethnic minorities.

A spokesman for the CRE, which has devised the lessons, said certain words, "such as coon, wog, and nigger", were clearly offensive to people from ethnic minorities. However, "if a soldier from an Afro-Caribbean background is referred to as Leroy because his name is not known, that



out a racial equality survey, sir?"

might be all right," the spokes-

The special instruction in language and conduct is included in a long list of measures to be introduced for the Household Cavalry which has been told to open its doors to black and Asian soldiers and to record any incident of racial abuse or harrassment. Colonel Peter Rogers, com-

manding officer of the Household Cavalry, which consists of a combined regiment of the Life Guards and the Blues and Royals, is to issue a directive reminding all ranks of the Army's equal opportunities policy "and stressing his commitment to its objectives".

The measures followed a two-year investigation. Be-tween 1989 and 1994 not a single black or Asian soldier was recruited into the Household Cavalry, although three from ethnic minorities have oined since 1994. Even so, ethnic minority representation in the Household Cavalry is far lower than in the Army as

a whole, which averages around 15 per regiment. The CRE investigation was prompted by the case of Cor-

other two services.



membership of the Royal Horticultural Society, in Weekend

Mortgages: how much you can Weekend Money

> LETTERS19 OBITUARIES21 JOHN REDWOOD18

CHESS & BRIDGE...... 44 COURT & SOCIAL.....20 SPORT42-46, 48 VALERIE GROVE17 LAW REPORT41 ister's Questions before turn-

Other birthday boys might have been waiting to celebrate. Mr Major was packing his socks for an EU meeting in Turin, where he will be shouted at by foreigners, badgered by officials and baited by British journalists following him there to make trouble.

Other birthday boys might have been planning an evening out, a quiet night by the fire or an exotic weekend break somewhere sunny with someone nice like Norma. John Major is planning a dismal Saturday outing to meet depressed supporters at

Today is John Major's the Tory Central Council in Harrogate, where it will rain, and where the prospective and where the prospective Conservative candidate is

> Other birthday boys might have been preparing yester-day by blowing up balloons. attending to the drinks cabinet or shopping for party poppers. John Major, guarded against being blown up by terrorists, spent his day attending to the dreariest kind of Cabinet, then being sniped at in the Commons by party poopers like Lamont.

Our birthday boy entered the Chamber yesterday to the sound of Angela Browning, a junior agriculture minister. telling transfixed MPs that "the whole head should be



removed" (including the bits around the neck) "but not the tongue". She had already explained how to conduct a brain test on a dead cow's cranium, putting smears of brain "on wax, then into a thin slide". She regretted this could not be accomplished in slaughterhouses.

They had been talking about slaughterhouses all afternoon. John Major and Tony Blair came in, sat down. and then everyone began shouting about slaughterhouses again. What an eve-ofbirthday! Mr Blair started on about slaughterhouses, Major replied on slaughterhouses, then read out an interminable Labour press release about slaughterhouses, with his comments "point by point" on its contents: Blair told Major he had "never heard anything wite so pathetic"; Major told Blair it was his reply which was pathetic backbenchers

kept shouting from their seats:

Betty Boothroyd lost her tem-

per and rapped, "Members

should learn to listen, not

bawl out from sedentary pos-

made as if to return to the fray, then slumped back in disgust; the Tory backbencher David Harris (St Ives) recommended "selective slaughter"; Paddy Ashdown promised to support Major on slaughter; Norman Lamont kneed Major in the goolies; and Eric Illsley (Lab, Barnsley Central) accused him of "total

incompetence". Did anybody remember this was the eve of a special day for our PM? Dame Jill Knight (C, Edghaston) surely did. Famed for her apparel, the retired actress. veteran backbencher and Birmingham dame yesterday surpassed herself.

In make-up of which Cleo-

she wore a silk dress in crazvpaved chips and swirls of blue-green and azure, a magnificent cape in purple, skyblue and turquoise pinned with a huge silver brooch, and more chains and bangles around her neck than a caliph's concubine.

Nine years ago Craig Brown, my predecessorsketchwriter, observed this ample dame, running down a corridor, dressed in a colourful, large-patterned floral print. She looked, wrote Brown, "like a fist-fight in a hydrangea bush". Yesterday she looked like a bungee jump

in a kaleidoscope. A merry curtain-raiser to a

dismal birthday.

grammars

BY DAVID CHARTER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

White Paper this summer.

The White Paper, to be

increasing the proportion of pupils any school can select from 10 per cent to up to 100 per cent; the final figure will be decided by consultation. The Government is already increasing the total to 15 per

Mrs Shephard said she opposed a wholesale return to the II-plus examination but would be "perfectly happy" to see many more selective schools using the test in response to parental demand.

Her announcement put her publicly shoulder-to-shoulder with John Major and his reported desire for a grammar school in every large town. Mrs Shephard yesterday denied reports there was a rift between her and the Prime Minister and that she privately disagreed with a return to grammar schools. Selective schools are really popular with many parents and if you really want parental choice, you need to enable access to that kind of school for parents who want that for their children," she said.

A spokesman for the Prince said he would be "pleased to hear this great news".

Schools to gain right to be

LOCAL authority schools will gain the right to convert from comprehensive to grammar irrespective of the views of their council under plans to be included in an Education

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, yesterday said that all parents who wanted a grammar-school place for their child should have that chance.

published in June, will propose handing much greater power over admissions to all schools. Although the 641 grant-maintained secondary schools run their own entry procedure, local authorities currently decide the method for the 3,500 schools they

The new powers will include

Mrs Shephard said the proposals "might well result" in a grammar school in every large town. However, a return to the Il-plus was "outmoded" because it would be imposing uniformity and the Government favoured a diversity of schools."

Labour predicted little enthusiasm for the changes among schools. Peter Kilfoyle, a Shadow Schools Minister, said: "Only 43 schools have actually asked to be able to select up to 10 per cent of their pupils. And out of 1,500 consultees, only 15 bodies, including two Tory quangos, supported increasing selection

to 15 per cent." David Hart, general secre-tary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: 'An expansion of selection will benefit a number of pupils but at the expense of the

overwhelming majority."

NEWS IN BRIEF Union to ballot on

THE LIMES!

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manifesto The GMB general workers union is to ballot its 750,000 members on Labour's general election manifesto in an attempt to ensure that trade unions are not sidelined by Tony Blair. The exercise will.

cost at least £250,000. The move comes after Mr Blair's decision to ballot all 365,000 party members. Many unions opposed the referendum, saying it would. undermine the party conference which will vote on the proposals weeks before the ballot is sent out.

Killer's taunt

David Burrows, 31. a Belfast loyalist jailed for life for murdering a Roman Catho-lic taunted his victim's relatives in the city's Crown Court. He cupped his hands as if holding a gun and shouted from the dock: "I shot your son - four in the back of the head." Sean Monaghan. 20. was bound and shot on waste ground.

Condoms in class

School nurses and youth workers should give condoms to children aged 11 or 12 if they cannot dissuade them from having sex and believe that the youngsters under-stand the implications, a group of medical and educational organisations said. Some schools are considering installing condom ma-chines to curb pregnancies.

Doctors' denial

Dr Rajindar Gupta and his practice partner and wife, Prabha Gupta, of Ealing. west London, appeared before the General Medical Council's professional conduct committee. They deny placing themselves in a position inadequate to assess the condition of Lakmi Nandha, who died of breast cancer. The hearing continues.

Haven for birds

A wildlife haven for rare birds, including merlin, peregrine falcons and short-cared owis, will be announced today by the Government. The 37,000 hectares of moorland in the Peak District will be designated a Special Protect tion Area under the Euro 🎏 🧓 pean Birds Directive, giving legal protection to breeding and migratory species.

Asylum denied

The son of a deported Ni an political activist lost his challenge to the Home Office's refusal to grant him asvium. The Court of Appeal ruled that a refusal to consider a second application from Ade Onibiyo, 20, was lawful. Mr Onibiyo says that his life will be at risk in Nigeria, where his father Abdul, 54. has gone missing.

Press awards

Apart from the award to Matthew Parris of The Times, other winners of the British Press Awards were National Newspaper of Year: Daily Mail. Scoop: The Sun for revealing that the Queen wanted the Prince of Wales to divorce. Reporter: Dorothy-Grace Elder of Scotland on Sunday. Foreign correspondent: Robert Fisk, Independent. Feature writer: Bryan Appleyard, Sunday Times. Business reporter: Ja-son Nisse, Mail on Sunday. Industrial journalist: Alan Jones of Press Association. Sports journalist: Richard Williams, The Guardian. Cartoonist: Matt Pritchett, Daily Telegraph.

Russian spies target Britain in wake of Security Service cuts By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT Russian Embassy. Security sources said the SVR, the sudden ending of the IRA ceasefire. Mr King said he had

when MI5's counter-espionage resources have been cut by 50 per cent, a parliamenta-

ry report said yesterday.

Tom King, chairman of the all-party Intelligence and Security Committee, said: They are back in business, having retrenched after the collapse of the Soviet Union, and there is disturbing evidence that Russian espionage is again on the

He said it was important for MIS to keep under review the resources it devoted to this "target". Already some resources had been "reinstated".

His warning was supported by Dame Stella Rimington. director-general of MI5, who in a new booklet on the Service said that although the level of spying had dropped since the Cold War, the Russians had renewed their efforts to post intelligence officers to London.

MI5 was unwilling to give a figure for the number of suspected Russian intelligence officers operating in Britain. There are 44 diplomats at the

1990/91

trish and other — Counter terrorism

KGB's successor, had found it easier to operate because of more freedom of movement and improved trade with Russia since the end of the Cold

The Secret Intelligence Service, MIo, has reduced by about two-thirds its Russian operations, according to the Parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee's first annual report. GCHQ, the secret communications agency in Cheltenham, has also "markedly" cut its signal intel-

ligence effort on Russia. There has been no let-up. however, in efforts to combat trish terrorism. The committee said that monitoring Irish terrorist groups and their supporters had involved "just under half" of MI5's operational resources in the past couple of years.

Mr King said that he and the committee had questioned members of MI5 about allegations that there had been an intelligence failure over the Canary Wharf bomb and the

MIS OPERATIONS

received assurances that MI5 had not dropped its guard.

The committee praised the co-operation it had received from the heads of the security agencies. But it was highly critical of the failure by the American intelligence services to provide a full report on the potential damage to British interests caused by Aldrich Ames, the CIA officer exposed as a long-term Russian spy.

The committee said it was not satisfied that the implicarions of Ames's treachery, which led to the deaths of at least nine CIA agents in Russia, were being considered with the appropriate "sense of in Britain or

Ministers had not been properly briefed on the implications for Britain, the report said. In a letter to the committee, however, John Major said he had reviewed the Ames case and that "on the evidence so far available, damage to United Kingdom interests was

1995/96



THE Royal Naval College at Greenwich is to be handed over to a charitable trust charged with preserving its heritage and guaranteeing public access. Lottery money could fund the setting up of the trust. The main tenants of the historic buildings designed by Sir Christopher Wren will be Greenwich University and the National

The announcement by Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, represents a victory for the beritage lobby after six months of uncertainty. The decision to sell the site provoked an outcry when it was announced. The Prince of Wales was among those who expressed concern.

In the wake of the objec-

its architectural and historic integrity, with the proper maintenance of the buildings and with ensuring proper

The University of Greenwich was "the most appropriate" tenant with the National Maritime Museum enjoying

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

tions, Mr Portillo established

a panel of heritage experts to advise on the eight submitted

bids. Yesterday he accepted

their recommendations with-

out reservation. "The Govern-

ment is determined that the

future of the Royal Naval

College should be one worthy

of the magnificent site and in

the best interests of the na-

served by "an independent trust charged with preserving

tion," he said.

the use of certain parts. Mr Portillo said. He also suggested that the entire Greenwich area, including the college, the royal park and the old observatory, could become a United Nations world heri-

It is the second time this year that the Government has backed away from selling historic buildings to a com-John Major intervened personally to rule out the sale of Admiralty Arch.

Details of financing remain unresolved but some continuing government commitment to the maintenance of the buildings is envisaged.

Helen Bamber

Continued from page i and £24,000 expected loss of earnings over the next four years. A further £5,000 was awarded for injury to her feelings. The bank is likely to have pay out closer to £100,000 after the tribunal ordered it should pay Ms Bamber's costs and interest.

Ms Bamber was represented at the tribunal by her boyfriend Cameron McNeill. a former Fuji colleague. Fuji had contended that she was pursuing the case to extort money from the bank at his behest, but that theory was dismissed by Mr Lamb, who said: "For a woman working in the City to be met by the allegations that she is a mere cipher, a mere reflection, of a man, is to multiply the consequences of the original discrimination. It is to rub salt into the wound. It is about the most insulting thing which can be done to a woman bringing a proceeding on the

basis of sex." Mr Lamb made no recommendation for the bank's future conduct, however. saying it would be pointless, because the tribunal did not believe there was an ounce of regret on their part.

Lamont boycott call raises Tory tensions

By Nicholas Wood AND JILL SHERMAN

NORMAN LAMONT suggested yesterday that John Major might boycott today's opening in Turin of the summit on the future of Europe until Brussels drops its ban on exports of British beef. The former Chancellor's intervention in the Commons was seen by Tory MPs as a further sign of the tensions within the party as the Prime Minister battles to defend Britain's vision of a Europe of nations against renewed continental pressure for deeper European integration. But Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, kept the flag flying for the party's pro-European wing by warning that it would be a "terrible

tions for a single currency. Urging British firms to prepare for the euro, Mr Clarke told a Lords committee that overseas financiers might get nervous about investing in Britain if British politicians detached themselves from the project.

Mr Lamont's hard line was echoed by John Redwood, another former abinet minister. Writing in The Times, he accused Germany of planning to use the intergovernmental conference to foist its vision of "one flag. one anthem" on the rest of Europe. But Conservative anxieties over Europe were paralleled by stark evi-

dence of a deep split in Labour ranks over a single currency. Some 50 Blair to rule out British participation in

economic and monetary union. A new group, A People's Europe, from the Right and Left of the party, argued that a single currency would lead to huge levels of unemployment in Britain and allow unelected bankers to rule Europe's economies.

In a glossy leaflet called Europe isn't Working, the MPs argued that a single currency would result in cuts of £12 billion in services and jobs in Britain. Stuck with mass unemployment and deflationary economics, the euro would be the breaking of Europe, not its binding," the leaflet said.

Mr Lamont, one of the most implacable opponents of the Government's

pragmatic approach to the "Maastricht 2" conference, seized on the the

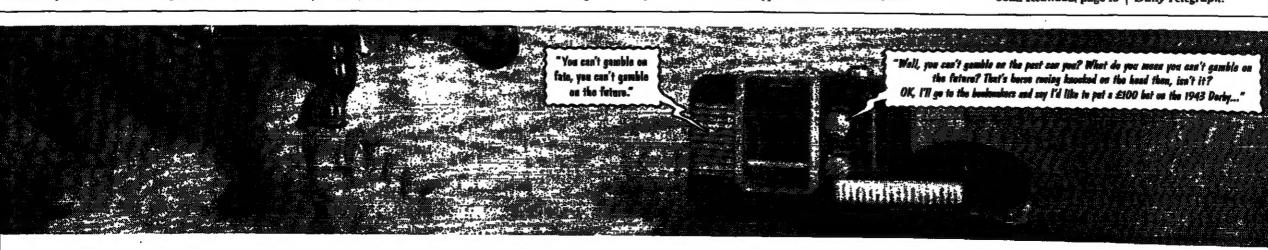
BSE scare to underline sceptic distrust.

The EU ban on British beef exports was unjust and taxpayers did not want to be bribed with their own money in the form of European compensation for bailing out the beef industry. isn't there, therefore, a case at the

IGC tomorrow, if not leaving the British seat vacant, at least saying that there will be no progress until this ruling has been overturned?" the former Chancellor added.

Mr Major promised a vigorous defence of British interests in Turin.

Turin summit, page 13 John Redwood, page 18



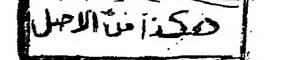
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THI



Drunk, bored and armed with a spade, the three squaddies set out to hunt down a woman

Soldiers brutally ended tour guide's summer of dreams

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN TARNACA AND

manifes

LOUISE JENSEN, a Danish tour guide who had promised herself a summer in the Cyprus sunshine before starting work as an au pair in the Canary Islands, was having the time of her life when three drunken British squaddies brought it to a violent end on the night of September 12

Miss Jensen, 23, had arrived in the Cypriot resort of Ayia Napa in January and early in the summer met Michaelis Vassiliades, who was working there as a waiter. They had been going out together for a few weeks and friends said they were very much in love and might have married.

After spending the evening of September 12 with colleagues from the tour company she set off with Mr Vassiliades, 22, a student from Nicosia, on his motorbike to visit a sick friend in Paralimni.

That same evening the three soldiers were dancing in the streets of the popular two-star resort. Its cheap beer and young British women looking for uncomplicated holiday romances were a magnet for the British servicemen stationed

The soldiers were soon involved in a prolonged drinkbecame



Louise Jensen, who was about to start new job

extremely drunk. A former soldier who met them in Ayia Napa's thronged central square at about tipm said Geoffrey Pernell, 24, was aggressive and abusive to a group of young English women, but Allan Ford, 27, and Justin Fowler. 28, were happily drunk".

About 30 minutes after midnight they staggered to Fowler's banana-yellow Mini-Moke and began the 25-mile drive back to Dhekelia base where they were stationed with the 1st Battalion, Royal Green Jackets. As they drove to a petrol station, Pernell announced he "was going to

get himself a woman for the night", according to a state-

er. Fowler told the court: *After five minutes Pernell swapped places with Ford and then I saw Pernell hit the woman with a spade. I couldn't believe this was happening. About five or ten minutes later they came back to the car. I asked them where the woman was. Pernell said, 'Don't worry, it's sorted.' Ford said, 'We buried her'." The soldiers were arrested

by an armed policeman at a road-block yards from the British sovereign base of Dheketia. Their clothes were spattered with blood, as was the Mini-Moke. In the rear luggage rack was a spade.

ment Fowler made later to police. Ford readily agreed it was "a good idea". At the petrol station, they ported Ms Jensen and her

hoylmend, neither of whom they knew. Twenty yards from the station, Mr Vassiliades tried to overtake the Mini-Moke. It swerved towards the motorcycle, caus-ing Mr Vassiliades to lose his xilance. Miss Jensen lay trapped beneath the bike. Ms Jensen, who had a strong sense of humour, was initially laughing, as she thought they were the victim of a bizarre practical joke. Her expression changed to one of horror when the Mini-Moke reversed into the motorcycle and Pernell got out, brandishing a spade which he used to chase off Mr Vassiliades, who had hidden in some bushes.

The court was told that Ford and Fowler beat Miss Jensen before Pernell returned to help to bundle her, kicking and screaming, into the back of the

While Fowler drove, Ford and Pernell sat on her in the back seat to subdue her as they passed through Ayia Napa and headed for a desert-

They stopped at a building site in open countryside. Fowler claimed to have seen in the rear-view mirror Ford trying to have sex with Miss

When they gave evidence, the soldiers blamed each oth-



Justin Fowler, above, Geoffrey Pernell, top right, and Allan Ford were known to barmen as "the geezers"

Cypriot barmen miss fun-loving trio who were happy to help others

BY MICHAEL THEODUULOU

THE three soldiers, who became friends in Northern Ireland, were known as the "geezers" to the barmen of Ayia Napa. The ornately tattoued trio were big spenders who consumed prodigious quantities of alcohol. Like the Cypriot barmen

detectives found Allan Ford. 27. who came from a happy working-class background in Sutton Coldfield, quick-witted, humorous and likeable. "He was lough, very strong and funny," Kypros Christou, a barman at the Jasmin pub, said. "A week before the killing, Allan was here teaching a little boy of six to play pool. He was never any

But Ford had a violent streak. He was already facing a charge of aggravated assault when Louise Jensen was killed. Kevin Remmer, a musician from Durham, needed 29 stitches in his face after Ford attacked him with a broken glass in an bar. Ford's

County ! Countries Trans Petiennes FON! ROMEMBER PRODUCE UP THE STADE HET HER BARE THE MERR WITH THE FLAT SIDE THAT HARD ENGINEER TO PROPER HER UNICONS OUS IT DIGNET HERE DS SILE THE SHANTED . SOMETHING . IN ... FREEKIN . UP ... MILLIE there ... I would strong know wolfer site was FREM, I HIS HER REALN THE SAME AS STORE AND FME SHIMPED SIDE WAYS

Part of Allan Ford's statement to police in Cyprus

estranged wife, Michelle, who left him after three months of marriage, said her childhood sweetheart had turned into an obsessively jealous husband who threatened her with violence if he should catch her with another man. She disclosed he had tattooed an arrow and the word "UP" on his penis with a needle and Indian ink.

Justin Fowler, 28, a wellbuilt six-footer, came from a middle-class family from Constantine, Cornwall, His grandfather and father were the Army, his brother

James was in the Royal Marines until his career was ended by a parachuting accident and his sister Jane served in the Royal Navy.

Friends described him as a "good laugh" and depend-able. His fiancée, Susan, a hairdresser from Scotland, has promised to wait for him until he finishes his sentence. "He was like one of the family and would do any-

thing for you," said the Cypri-ot owner of the Manhattan restaurant in Larnaca. Fowler's mother, Anne, a

social worker, said the family

did not believe he was respon sible for Miss Jensen's death. but spoke of his remorse: Justin is still devastated by what happened to that poor girl. When his lawyer showed im pictures of Louise's body,

he was physically sick." Geoffrey Pernell, 24, from Oldbury, West Midlands, was also a heavy drinker who became violent when drunk. On the night of the killing he was celebrating the comple-tion of a training course which would have led to promotion to the rank of lance corporal. Less than two hours before Miss Jensen died, he had announced he was going to "slap" a woman that night. Pernell's fiancée, Sarah Green, 22, has said she will

wait for him. Army sources said his father, John, was the only parent of the three accused to accept that his son was not entirely innocent. "If he was there, he's guilty," he said. "At least our families can visit them in prison; Louise's will

Islanders question need for bases

By Michael Theodoulou

THE British Army insists among servicemen on the "sunshine posting" of Cyprus and that the brutal killing of Louise Jensen was an aberration.

But many Cypriots see it differently. There had been complaints that drunken and bored off-duty soldiers were performing a national disser-vice in the tourist resorts. above all in Avia Napa.

It did not help that Ms Jensen was killed at a time when some Cypriots were already questioning Britain's right to the valuable swaths of real estate covered by the sovereign military bases. They colonial power as a condition of the island's independence in 1960 under a treaty some

argue is now outdated. Britain still views the two bases as vital strategic interests, despite the end of the Cold War. They help to guard Britain's oil interests in the Middle East and are useful for electronic intelligence gathering, for training and as stag-

ing and supply posts.
But for most of the 4,500 service personnel in Cyprus the posting is considered a compensation for more arduous tours of duty. Boredom, however, turns many to drink.

Allan Ford, an alcoholic on bottle of whisky a day, said: "Here, this so-called sunshine posting is really boring. You finish guard duty and there's nothing to do. There's just one shop on camp so you go to the hars and drink too much. That was the big problem." He drank even on duty, but

said the Army never noticed. the court was told. "How could they know i had a problem? I was no different from all the others."

After the killing Army commanders, stung by criticism they had not done more to prevent trouble, ordered a security review. Ayia Napa was put, and remains, out of bounds to all military and civilian personnel and a lam curiew was declared on other tourist areas in deference to

Heir to a fortune | High drama over faces deportation

Annette and Poul Jensen, Miss Jensen's parents,

leaving court in Larnaca earlier this month

THE Home Office is expected to announce today that Jay Khadka, the former Nepalese mountain boy who is heir to a £25 million fortune, is to be deported.

The 19-year-old has lost his fight to remain in the country in spite of a recommendation from an immigration tribunal that he be allowed to stay. Two earlier tribunals rejected his appeals.

11717

He was fighting a deportation order that was issued by the Immigration and Nationality Department because he had no residence permit and his passport when he entered Britain stated that he was 18

when he was 14.
Jay has lived for the past five years in a commune in an 18th-century castle in the Forest of Dean. He could not read or write when he was rescued from a life of poverty in Nepal by Richard Morley, a millionaire businessman, who heads the commune at Clearwell Castle, Gloucestershire.

Mr Morley. 41, has said he will leave Britain if the Home Office presses ahead with the deportation. He has said it is not a question of wealth or bureaucracy but of human relationships.

Mr Morley says he rescued Jay from poverty to honour a pact with the boy's dead

as his son since July 1990 and named him heir to his fortune.

The two met after Mr Morley punctured a lung in a climbing accident in Nepal in 1984. Jay's father, Basu, a policeman, trekked for three days through the mountains

After making a full recovery. Mr Morley traced the father to his village and promised that if anything happened to him, he would take care of Jay. After Basu's death in 1990 Mr Morley, a former naval officer who has made a fortune in computers, returned to Nepal and brought Jay to



Jay Khadka: tribunal said he should stay

delayed opera

SIR PETER HALL accused Italian opera directors of dishonesty and double-dealing last night after his new production of Fidelio was postponed by last-minute machinations worthy of grand operatic tradition. Sir Peter, 65, was due to

open Beethoven's opera in Rome on April 16 in a joint production between Rome Opera and the Royal Opera House. But rehearsals were delayed after the Italians suddenly raised technical objec-tions to the British-built set on the day it was due to be loaded for shipment abroad, Sir Peter has flown back to Britain blaming in-fighting at Rome Opera, which has been hit by

industrial action, for the delay. The £250,000 set, created by John Gunter, will now sit in the Royal Opera's Cynon Valley scenery storehouse until further notice. Italian technicians claimed it was too heavy for their stage and could not be loaded in time to fit around other productions. Sir Peter, former director of

the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company, rejected the claims. There is a war inside the opera house between the old guard and the new artistic director, Vincenzo De Vivo, and I think the old guard was bent on stopping

against him, not me.
"My general feelings are complete disgust at the technical department in Rome being so unprofessional and, in my view, dishonest. I would put it as strongly as that. I think there is a faction at Rome Opera that had no intention of doing Fidelio and held its hand until the very last minute, which gave no leeway

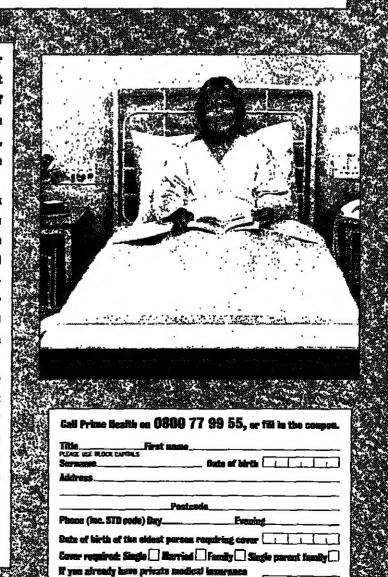
to solve the issues." He said the set was a beautiful, early 19th-century design, without any difficult hydraulies or computer technology. "In my estimation, with 40 years' experience, it is not remotely difficult and it is actually under the weight they told us they required."

Rome Opera was not available for comment yesterday, but the Royal Opera House described the problem as a "regrettable blip".

Sir Peter said that the objections were "baffling" because the set design had been agreed long before. There has been double-dealing, which is I suppose the common currency of drama. However, 1 do not think the whole thing would make a very good opera because the turnabout has been so barefaced and demonstrably false that no audience would be very impressed."

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Don attacks 'myths' of Ms brigade

By JOE JOSEPH

FEMINIST academics who thought they had long settled the question of women's place in society have been dragged back to the debating chamber. A London don argues that far more women prefer the role of wife and nomemaker than feminists have led us to believe.

Dr Catherine Hakim had sought to explode feminist convictions that she decided were myths. She studied attitude surveys in Britain and on the Continent and decided they did not dovetail with established feminist beliefs. Dr Hakim. a senior research fellow at the London

Political Science, wrote in the **British Journal of Sociology** that even after barriers against women in society and employment had been removed, many still chose the traditional role of looking after the home and raising the family, leaving men as the main breadwinners.

This month she opened her copy of the journal to find that ten academies had pooled their resources to pen a riposte to her article, which appeared last autumn. One of them, Dr Jan Pahl, Reader in Social Policy at Kent University, said: "I think the danger of Catherine Hakim's piece is that policymakers

en's role as workers. If that's assumption, then you don't need maternity leave, crèches, flexible working hours, job-shares, term-only obs, and so on."

Dr Hakim seems bemused to have provoked such a hullabaloo. Is she a feminist? Yes. always. I don't think these days anyone questions the concept of egalitarian feminism -- equal opportunities. All I'm saying is that when the barriers do come down, not all women want to pursue careers.

"One consequence is that when they do work, they choose part-time careers and their attitude is different -

motion or long-term careers. It is a myth that part-time workers are all exploited. "Another myth is that childcare is the main barrier to women's employment the

main issue is women's affi-

It is on such points that Dr

tudes to career.

Pahi and her co-signatories start spitting. She says that women's move into employment, mainly part-time, "reflects both their commitment to their families and their desire to earn for themselves — for a variety of reasons". Nor can she fathom Dr Hakim's point on childcare: "Most women can't afford

Government acts to cut red tape holding back adoption

SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS published a draft Bill vesterday designed to make adoption easier and more popular. Political correctness will be banished and red tape swept away in an effort to reverse the steep decline in infants available to childless couples over the past 25 years.

Women as old as 55 will be encouraged to bring up other people's babies when guidelines restricting prospective parents' eligibility on grounds of age, race and class are scrapped. Social workers chosen to interview prospective adopters should be parents themselves. Ministers say the draft Bill, Adoption - A Service for Children, published yesterday, will help to revive adoption but campaigners are suspicious that the Conservatives want to tackle the problems of single parents by getting them to relinquish their offspring.

"It is vital that we do not turn the clock back to a time when women were shamed into giving away their children, resulting in trauma and long-term distress," Karin Pappenheim, director of the National Council for One Parent

Families, said. John Bowis, a junior health minister, said: "If adoption is seen as a positive option, it is possible that some mothers will be encouraged. There is absolutely no question of any mother - I don't care whether the mother is single or married — being pressurised by this legislation or anything we have issued into giving up her child unwillingly."

His reforms are the most sweeping changes in 20 years, an era during which the number of children, particularly babies, available for adoption has plummeted. In 1976, there were 18,000 adoptions, a fifth of them babies under one. By 1993, there were only 6,900 adoptions, of whom 465, or one in 14, were babies. Half of adoptions now involve stepfathers or stepmothers taking responsibility for their

spouse's child Mr Bowis said: "Political correctness has no place in the adoption process. That is widely accepted among the professionals in adoption and certainly right around the House of Commons when we debated the subject."

He denounced adoption agencies

which rejected prospective parents because they were too old, the wrong colour, too rich or because they had careers: "There have been occasions when ageism has crept in," he said. "Mothers have been told they are too old at 35 despite the fact that they can give birth many years after that.

"It may certainly be that a woman of 55, an older person with knowledge for example of a particular form of disability, having brought up a family of her own and had experience, is the ideal person to entrust this child to." Children of 12 and older will have a

veto over being adopted but their natural parents will have their rights reduced. Previously the courts could force a mother to give up a child for adoption only if they could prove she was acting unreasonably. Now they need only decide it is in the child's welfare to make her hand it over.

Social workers will be encouraged to use adoption rather than foster parents or children's homes. A struggling mother who keeps putting her children into care then taking them back when she can cope again could find the

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Some reforms strengthen the natural mother's rights A baby will have to be six weeks old before it can be put up for adoption and the mother will have to be counselled before handing over a child so she understands the decision and that it is hers to make.

Couples will find it easier to adopt children from South America, South East Asia and Eastern Europe under the proposals, which would alter immigration and nationality law to ensure that youngsters adopted from overseas can obtain British

There has been a surge in demand for foreign children as abortion and the removal of stigma from single mother-hood has reduced the numbers of native babies available. Four years ago, only 61 youngsters from abroad were adopted. This year the total was

Herbert Laming, chief inspector of the Social Services Inspectorate, has written to all councils telling them to let couples adopt children from parts of the world where their natural parents

Leading article, page 19



Jim and Roma Lawrence thought they were an ideal couple for adopting a child

Pair defeated by 'political bias'

CASE ONE: THE CHILDLESS COL

feared it would be difficult to

check that guidelines were followed. "At the end of the

day all the adoption panel's meetings are held behind

closed doors, which worries me. You can tell more about a

inutes with them than read-

"Social workers will still have their own political bias, whatever the rules. Many we

politically correct. I am not

were working class than mid-

asked us what kind of racial

abuse we had suffered as a mixed-race couple in Cro-

mer. Quite truthfully we said

'none' and their chins nearly

He said many things they as

exaggerating when I say you had more chance of being

By CAROL MIDGLEY

WHEN Jim and Roma Lawrence tried to adopt in 1991 they believed they were ideal Cromer, Norfolk

Mrs Lawrence had been born to an Asian family in Guyana and the couple decided on trying for a mixed-race child because there was a shortage of

After a series of ass nents by social workers, they were told they were not suitable. Norfolk County Council social workers told them they had come over as "racially naive" because they said they had never suffered racial prejudice in Cromer.

The couple, who could not have children, have stopped trying to adopt. They almost adopted a child from Sri Lanka but had to drop their application because Sri Lanka required a report from the

day that although he was delighted at the proposals to cut through red tape. he

'Not a day goes by that I do not think about her



By Carol Midgley

IN A windowless room inside a social services office in Manchester, Patricia James picked up her seven-week-old baby girl and handed her over for adoption. A social worker left the room telling her she was showing the child to her new adoptive parents who were standing down the

That moment, in the summer of 1960, was the last time Miss James saw her daughter. For the next 30 years she kept her existence a secret, tormented by the fact she had given her away.

Three years ago she decided to try to trace her and contact-ed the Searchline and Adoption Contact Register. She believes that the regulations, far from being relaxed, should be tightened. As a young single mother aged 20, she says she was never given the chance to change her mind or consider another option.

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about Stephanie," she said. "Every year on her birthday - July 7 - I try to be on my own because it is so distressing. I imagine how she must look and if she knows she is adopted; she will be 36 now. "In my mind she is married with children in a small town or a big village somewhere in

the country. I think she is plump and practical and she is happy. At first I was full of hope that I would find her, but after three years without success I'm running out of hope."
Miss James, 56, became pregnant after a year-long

affair with a Greek Cypriot: She carried on working into her ninth month of pregnancy and visited her GP only three weeks before the birth. Withington Hospital in Manchester, where she had Stephanie, arranged the adoption and, soon after giving birth,

she went to a mother-andbaby home.
"I kept her for seven weeks and when the time came I had to get on a bus and take her down to social services. I had spent every penny I had on a white baby dress and shawl because I wanted her to look nice. I'll never forget when I handed her over. They said they were only taking her for a minute but I never saw her again. I went back to my bedsit, not crying just numb."

She later moved to north London, where she still lives. She has a son, Stephen. In my view it should be harder, not easier, to adopt. Stephanie was born in July and the adoption was official by November - that is very quick. I think the natural parent should have a year to decide what they want to do." ☐ Searchline: 01202 693102



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Victim of police assault awarded record £220,000

A HAIRDRESSER won 5220,000 damages yesterday after a jury found that he was assaulted by police and Tha HAIRDRESSER won wrongfully arrested. The award, a record against police in England and Wales, come after counsel for Kenneth Hsu urged the jury to send a clear message that the public would no longer stand for "lying, bullying, racism and perjury" by the Metropolitan Police.

Central London County Court was told that police went to Mr Hsu's home in Tulse Hill, south London, over a dispute involving a tenant in July 1992. He was arrested after refusing to allow officers in without a warrant. His solicitor, Sidiq Khan, said his client had been grabbed by the arms which were twisted up his back and then handcuffed

behind him. Mr Khan said: "They punched and kicked him in the van and he was kicked in the kidneys. Another police-man used his back as a footstool and the driver turned round and insulted him verbally saying he had got no more than he deserved. The charge officer told him, 'I've never arrested a Chink before.' When he was released at llpm that night they threw him into the street in just jeans



Hsu: doctors found he had extensive bruising

and flip-flops. He had to walk

two miles home."

Mr Khan said that when Mr Hsu arrived the front door was open and his stereo and other property had been stolen. Doctors at King's College Hospital found that he had extensive bruising to his back and kidneys and was passing

Mr Hsu made a formal complaint to the Police Complaints Authority. Despite a police surgeon confirming the injuries, the complaint was rejected and he decided to sue. Ben Emmerson, counsel for

Mr Hsu, urged the jury to

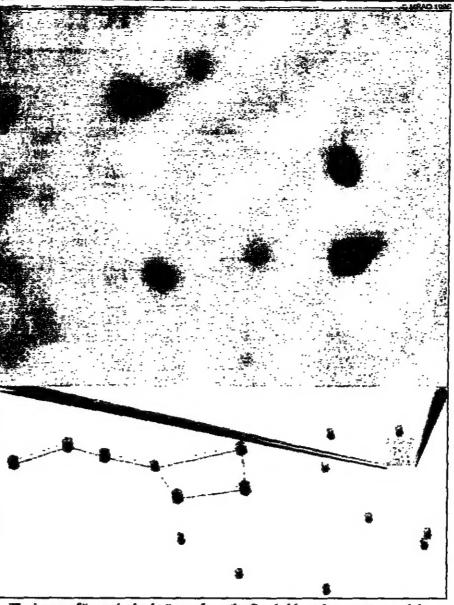
annual budget. In this case a small award of damages would be regarded as a victory by the officers. Even a moderately large award would be greeted with relief at Streatham police station." A statement issued on be-half of Sir Paul Condon, the

Metropolitan Police Commis-sioner, said: "We believe the award in this case to be excessive and we are to appeal against the size of the award but not the verdict."

Mr Hsu, 32, said after the case: "Finally I've got justice. I'm really happy with what the jury have done, I feel terribly relieved. I still don't understand why the police did what

The Metropolitan Police said no action had been or would be taken against the officers. The constables involved, Kenneth Watkins, Christopher Smith Andrew Morris and Andrew Davies, were continuing with their normal duties.

in a separate case at the same court, a jury awarded £64,000 damages to Terence Winyard. 27, who accused other police officers from the same station. Streatham, of wrongful arrest and assault, false imprisonment and mali-



The image of "cosmic ripples" seen from the Cambridge telescope, top, and the area of sky that was observed in relation to the Plough constellation

Cambridge team pictures dawn of the universe

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

PHYSICISTS at Cambridge have taken the clearest pictures yet of the universe began to form.

The image shows tiny vari-ations in the radiation that crmeates the universe and echo of the Big Bang. From these small variations the galaxies and stars later formed.

The images show the universe as it was 300,000 years after the Big Bang, less than one 50,000th of its present age. They have been taken with a prototype telescope with a prototype telescope costing £250,000.

Now the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council has agreed to spend £2.6 million to build a bigger version on Tenerife. This instrument should be able to distinguish between the rival theories of the origins of the ripples and predict the future of the universe, says Dr Paul Scott, one of the research team.

Three years ago a satellite launched by the US space agency Nasa took the first pictures showing variations in background radiation. Cosmologists believed that these "cosmic ripples" must exist, to account for the fact that matter in the universe is not evenly dispersed but

coalesced into stars, planets and galaxies. But those pic-tures showed only faint ripples, which were at least partly caused by noise. The Cambridge images, though they cover only a tiny area of sky, are much sharper. They were taken with a telescope called CAT (Cosmic Anisotropy Telescope) by studying radiation at wavelengths of about two centimetres.

CAT combines signals from three horns, about two metres apart, pointing at the same area of sky. By using lengthy exposures, it is possible to remove the large amounts of radiation emitted by the atmosphere, leaving only cosmic background radiation. CAT is sensitive to varia-

tions of only one 100,000th of a degree centigrade between the hotter and colder regions of the sky. A large metal shield protects the horns from ground heat. The features seen in the

images do not correspond to any celestial objects. "We are seeing the universe at a time before stars and galaxies formed." Dr Scott said. "These clumps may have formed solid objects later. but if so they would lie at the very edge of the universe and light from them could not have reached us yet."

Champion shot loses gun licences

By Paul WILKINSON

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A CHAMPION marksman was told yesterday that he cannot keep his arsenal of firearms because he may be a public danger. Andrew Judge, a former member of the British clay pigeon shooting team. had twice been involved in "road rage" incidents, had allegedly made death threats to relatives and had attacked a ponceman, York Crown Court

The court rejected his apeal against a police decision to withdraw his licences for a Magnum bolt-action rifle, three 12-bore double-barrel shotguns and a fourth shotgun. Mr Judge, 45, had want-ed the licences to enable him to set up a shooting and gundog training centre at his 12-acre country house at Great

Barugh, North Yorkshire. Stephen Twist, for North Yorkshire Police, which conliscated the weapons after revoking Mr Judge's licences three months ago, said he was unsuitable to hold them because he was unable to

said that in 1974 Mr Judge was fined £15 after body-checking a policeman. In 1991 a motorist was kicked unconscious during a fight but he declined to pursue legal action. In 1994 Mr Judge was given a two-year conditional discharge after he ripped off a wing mirror and pushed it at a driver who had abused him.

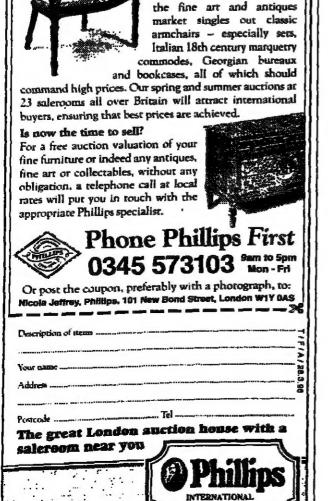
Last year Mr Judge, York-shire Clay Pigeon Champion in 1984, allegedly telephoned his father-in-law and brotherthem in the back after he lost his job at the family firm. Police took no action.

Scott Wilson, for Mr Judge, said the lack of police action bore out his denial of his relatives' allegations. "There is no likelihood of offences being committed involving the use of shotguns," Mr Wilson said.

But Judge Savill, QC, said: "All the circumstances show he is a man of intemperate habits and is unfitted to hold a firearms and shoteum certificate without there being a danger to the public peace."

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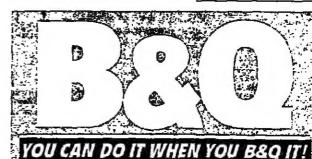
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HOME NEWS

Railtrack pays the price for neglecting the Forth bridge.

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE Forth rail bridge has been allowed to deteriorate to such an extent that Railtrack has been ordered to start an emergency maintenance programme or risk

The Health and Safety Executive, which published a comprehensive report on the bridge's safety yesterday, says that between 50 and 70 per cent of the bridge's surface needs repainting in the next few years. The continuous painting programme, on which 16 painters were employed, cost £600,000 a year and was stopped three years ago by the former owners ScotRail

The report follows claims by residents of South Queensferry in Lothian that parts of the bridge were rusting away and falling into their gardens. It includes eight legally enforcable improvement notices detailing steps to ensure

The HSE, however, says the bridge, which is over a mile long and 350ft high and carries more than 1,000 trains a week between Edinburgh and Fife. is safe at present. It criticises the way the bridge has been allowed to deteriorate and says its maintenance must



Rust is attacking the bridge and residents claim pieces are falling into their gardens below

be improved if structural problems

are to be avoided. Stan Robertson, chief inspecting officer of railways, said he was dissatisfied, disappointed and concerned" at what his inspectors had found when they carried out their assessment. He was particularly concerned that parts of the

bridge had received no maintenance for a considerable time and there was a lack of maintenance records for some years. Railtrack, which had owned the bridge for two years, was not properly aware of how it should be maintained and its standards were inadequate.

Some of the secondary compo-

nents have rusted through. The report lists a series of other problems include faulty bearings which should allow the steel structure to expand and contract: unsafe ladders and walkways: the removal of inspection hatches: and a build-up of bird droppings inside the tubular steel structures. The

original parts of the structure, with an oil coating, have proved better at withstanding the weather conditions than modern replacements. Railtrack has until the end of May to complete an overall condition survey and until the end of November to complete a maintenance plan. All the recommendations in the report must be complied with by the end of next year.

The report comes at a sensitive time for Railtrack, preparing for privatisation. It said yesterday that welcomed the report and its acknowledgement that the bridge was safe. It said £3 million would be spent on the bridge in the next recommendations made in the HSE report were already in hand.

Mr Robertson said that while ScotRail, the previous owner of the bridge, bear bore some responsibility for its former maintenance problems. Railtrack has no choice but to accept responsibility now".

The bridge, built at a cost of £3.5 million, was opened by the then Prince of Wales on March 4, 1890, after a seven-year building programme in which 57 of the 5,000 workers lost their lives. A further 500 were injured. Each of the 6.5 million rivets holding the bridge together was driven in by hand.

Judges say tangled laws to blame for leniency

SENIOR judges attacked the "tangle and confusion" in their sentencing powers yesterday when they rejected an appeal by Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, the Attorney-General, for stiffer custody terms for four teenage

The Court of Appeal judges said they had no power to increase the six-month detention sentences involved. Lord Justice Rose said that he and his fellow judges would have liked to have detained the offenders for "two years or maybe more". But, he said. they had no power to do so.

This case sadly illustrates the tangle and confusion which has been introduced in certain respects into the court's powers of sentencing by successive Criminal Justice Acts in recent years," he said.

The judge, sitting in the Court of Appeal with Mr Justice Hidden and Mr Justice Morison, cited five Acts, only the last of which allowed 17year-olds to be sentenced for up to two years.

His comments come three weeks after the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, gave a warning that legislative confusion threatened to "undermine public confidence". Sentencing policy had in four years gone from one extreme to another and frequent swings of penal

confidence", he said. The judges' comments come in advance of Michael Howard's imminent White Paper on tougher sentencing, due to have been published yesterday but delayed by the beef crisis. Judges oppose plans for minimum sentences for drug dealers and persistent burglars, and automatic life sen-

SHORT BREAK

SPECIALS

tences for second offences of rape and other violent crimes. They say these will fetter their discretion. But they are determined not to take the blame for soft sentences provided under previous Criminal Jus-

In yesterday's case, the robberies were committed a few days before the last Criminal Justice Act came into force on February 3, 1995. Because of that and because three of the youths were only 17 when convicted, the maximum sentence was 12 months. As a result, the judges rejected argument by counsel for Sir Nicholas that the six-month sentences were unduly lenient.

The youths, who cannot be named for legal reasons, were sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court on January 9 on five charges of robbing young late-night bus passengers in Birmingham city centre. The failure of yesterday's move by Sir Nicholas means the youths will be released in two weeks.

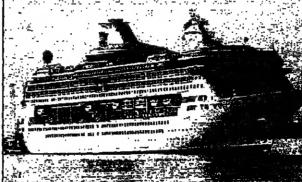
In two incidents, the gang trapped their victims on the top deck of buses, threatened them with a knife and stole money, jewellery and cigarettes. Lord Justice Rose said that one of the youths had made the threat: "You had better do as I say, otherwise I'm going to chop you up."

Lord Justice Rose said: "People of whatever age and of either sex must be able to travel on city buses at night safely ... The courts must show unequivocally that ... those who, like these offenders, have no regard for that principle will be severely dealt with." But for the restrictions on its powers, the court would have decided that the sentences were too lenient.

Enjoy a short break that







The luxurious attractions of the 69,130-tonne Splendour of the Seas include a miniature golf course. Pictures: Julian Herbert and Roy Riley

Fastest liner offers rough with the smooth

THE world's fastest ocean-going cruise ship sailed into Southampton yesterday morning, stealing the berth normally reserved for the QE2 with the arriviste cheek of the latest model. The new 69,130-tonne liner is to be

named Splendour of the Seas today. but is unofficially called the Ship of Light because she has two acres of windows. She also has an 18-hole miniature golf course with scaled-

On Sunday the Splendour, looking slightly over-fed with her 11 decks, will leave the south coast docks to set sail at top speed of 24 knots on her sixnight maiden voyage to Spain, Portugal and Gibraltar.

She will not be back. The Splendour has turned her bulbous stern on the port in favour of Harwich, Essex, where she has a £1 million purposebuilt terminal closer to the lucrative

down versions of the world's most Baltic cruising ground which she will and chrome atrium. From there they ply in the summer. In spring and autumn she will cruise the Mediterranean from Barcelona, and in winter she will sail from Puerto Rico to explore the southern Caribbean.

The Spiendour, 867ft long and with 720 crew, was built in France. She will be the flagship of the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, the world's secondlargest cruise line, which is based in

Passengers enter through a glass

I**VI**EDICAL BRIEFING

It is estimated that there are

800,000 people suffering from

dementia in one of its many

forms in the United Kingdom.

of Alzheimer's during the life-

time of the patient has been

very inexact and other causes

of dementia have been mistak-

en for it, particularly tumours,

multiple infarcts (small

strokes). Lewey body demen-

tia and senile depression.

Even in the best units no more

than 75 per cent accuracy

could be expected, which

Until recently the diagnosis

A better way to detect Alzheimer's

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

can opt for the chinoiserie of The King and I dining room, the Greco-Roman Splendours of the Roman Spa, or the solarium, which has a retractable crystal canopy. At night they can visit the Casino Royale or watch a show in the 42nd Street Theatre. The golf course, called Splendours of the Green, will enable passengers to play Wentworth in the middle of the Caribbean. The 12-night cruises start at £1,489 per person.

means that 25 per cent of

patients with symptoms of dementia were either mistreat-

Neurologists at the Radcliffe Infirmary at Oxford, led by Dr

Jim Jobst, have based their

conclusions on two forms of

simple scanning. By arranging a CAT scan of the medial

temporal lobe of the brain.

where Alzheimer's is most

obvious, and measuring the

blood flow through it by a

different scanning system which plots the passage

through the nervous tissue of a

radio-labelled substance.

Ceretec, they have been able

to predict with 95 per cent

accuracy which of their pa-

tients have Alzheimer's. The

research has also shown that

the medial temporal lobe de-

generates ten times faster in a

patient with Alzheimer's than

in other elderly people.

ed or undertreated.

NEWS IN BREES Man fired gun at children

A man with a ball-bearing gun walked into a school and fired at children and teachers, frightening one boy so much he was sick. Merthyr Tydfil Crown Court was told. Teachers barricaded children as young as six in the headmistress's office at the special-needs school in Mer-thyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, last October, Glyn Popp, 28, of Merthyr Tydfil, who had a history of mental illness, admitted arson and possessing an imitation firearm. He was sent to psychiatric hospital and can be released only by the Home Secretary.

Dog plea fails

A judge at Chichester County Court decided that an application by Roland Jeckalejs, 41, of Tangmere, West Sussex, for access to the dog he shared with his girlfriend before they parted did not warrant a full hearing. Mr Jeckalejs must pay £1,100 costs.

Walkers fined

Peter and Brenda Rance of Hurley, Warwickshire, were fined £75 with £364 costs at Teignmouth. Devon, for breaking a bylaw three times by disturbing resting seabirds while walking their dog. A nature warden had asked them to take a different route.

Attacker sought

Greater Manchester Police are hunting a teenage sex attacker who prevs on young girls, some as young as eight. They have linked him to two attacks and are examining a possible link with others. He is tween 5ft 6in and 5ft 8in.

Pools bid fails

A pools syndicate of five Scottish power workers, denied a jackpot win when their collector stole their £5 stake, has failed to force Littlewoods to pay them the £2.3 million. Lord Coulsfield dismissed their action at the Court of Session in Edinburgh.

Talked enough

Simon Bates and Jonathan King are the latest recently recruited star presenters to be dropped by Talk Radio as ratings fall. Paul Ross — Jonathan Ross's brother will take over Bates's show at Easter and King's slot will be taken over by Scott Chisholm.

Brocket moved

Lord Brocket, 44, jailed for five years for a £4.5 million insurance fraud, has been moved to Littlehey prison near Hun-tingdon after a fight among inmates at Wellingborough prison in Northamptonshire earlier this month. Brocket was not attacked.

Policeman killed

A police motorcyclist on 2 training exercise was killed when he was thrown from his machine and struck by a car and a lorry on the A533 at Bostock, Cheshire. The officer, aged 31, who has not been named, was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital.

Venus goes home

Velasquez's The Toilet of Venus, better known as the Rokeby Venus, returns to within a mile of its former home at Rokeby Hall, Co Durham, tomorrow for an exhibition at Bowes Museum, running until June 2. The painting is owned by the National Gallery.

Other cuts follow beef's price lead

WEEKEND SHOPPING

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A PATIENT was recently per-

suaded by his wife to see me

after he had lost his way while

travelling home. It was a journey he had done thou-

sands of times before but on

this occasion could not re-

member where he was and

finally found his bearings

again, miles off course, after

he had gone the wrong way

round a roundabout before

His wife had noticed that

his memory, always poor, was

now appalling and that he was

beginning to repeat himself.

The man, in his early 70s, had

been successful in his career

and his present troubles were

causing distress to his family

and colleagues, even if not to

One of the questions that

needed answering was wheth-

er his symptoms were the first

signs of Alzheimer's or that he

reaching the M25.

NOT all bargains on the meat shelves this week are beef. Asda is offering British pork rolled shoulder at £2.39 a kg, a 46p saving, while Safeway has traditional British ham reduced from £1.19 to 99p for a 100g pack.

For beef bargain-hunters Sainsbury's is offering British beef sirloin steak at £10.68 a kg, a reduction of £1 a kg, and Safeway has trimmed £1 from its British beef rump steak. now selling at £7.99 a kg.

Promotions include: Asda: fresh chicken Kievs El.59 for 284g, Webbs basted chicken El.74 a kg. cantaloupe melons 99p each. Budgens: whole fresh chicken £3.99 for 2.3kg, fresh peeled

Co-op: family chicken and

prawns £1.19 for 200g.

mushroom pie 99p, Linda McCartney sausages £1.59 for 16, frozen natural cod fillets 52.29 for 600g. Harrods: rainbow trout \$4 a

kg. Maroilles Thierache whole

cheese for £11.95.

dementia. Oxford scientists

announced this week that

their recent research may be

able to give him, and many

others like him, a more defi-

Nearly everybody's memory

deteriorates and, if not associ-

ated with other signs of mental

decline, may indicate nothing

more than advancing years.

Although 25 per cent of those

aged 65 have Alzheimer's, it is

not part of the inevitable

ageing process but a disease.

nite diagnosis.

Iceland: part-boned chicken breasts £3.99 for 1.5kg, traditional smoked haddock fillets £1.99 for 680g. luxury New York chocolate cheesecake £1.99 for 5/6 portions.

Marks & Spencer: 10 chicken breast fillets £7.99 for 975g, New Zealand lamb leg knuckle £4.99 a kg, large fresh fruit salad £1.99 for 600g, six potato croquettes 99p for 250g. Morrison: vegetable bake 99p for 300g, garlic and mush-

room-topped ciabatta £1.09.

sweet pineapples 59p each.

Safeway: rump steak £3.62 a lb, smoked Scottish salmon £5.99 for 450g, harn on the bone 89p for 4oz, red seedless grapes 79p a lb. Songold yellow plums 79p a lb canteloupe melons £1.29 each. Sainsbury's: New Zealand lamb shoulder £2.99 a kg. mature blue stilton £1.67 a lb. Freshbake minced beef and onion pie 99p for 807g, brocco-

li florets 99p a kg.
Somerfield: pork escalope £5.25 a kg, fresh salmon steaks £7.29 a kg, new potatoes 16p a lb, medium avocados 22p each, red grapefruit 29p each, red seedless grapes 65p a lb. Tesco: boneless leg of pork £3.09 a kg. forerib of beef £4.79 a kg, cod fillet £1.95 a lb, whole salmon £1.97 a lb,

rhubarh £1.49 a lb. black seedless grapes 89p a lb. Waitrose: farmhouse pork boneless leg El.99 lb. Scottish smoked salmon E3.99 for 180g. whole rainbow trout £1.59 a lb, extra large avocados 75p each. red seedless grapes 70p a lb.

> MAN AND MACHINE IN PERFECT HARMONY ?

DEFINITELY NOT.

THE OLIVER & CLAIRE STREE

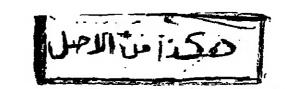


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Children under 5 FREE, prices for older children on request. All prices are inclusive at VAT,

i dikrator

Remarks The



Burger King: an announcement about our new beef.

In the light of current events, we have taken the decision to source all beef supplies outside the United Kingdom. This decision has been based solely on our customers' continued concern and apparent lack of confidence in British beef.

Managing Director of Burger King Europe, Graig Bushey, made this announcement: "As we have stated previously, all Burger King patties are made from beef of the highest quality, taken from prime cuts of forequarter and flank that contain no offal or mechanically recovered meat. In accordance with the latest government statement, we are confident that this beef is safe to consume.

However, our customers' lack of confidence in British beef, the related potential damage to our business and threat to our employees' livelihood has caused us to take the decision to source beef outside the UK until confidence in British beef is fully restored."

From Saturday 30th March, and until further notice, all beefburgers served in Burger King restaurants will be made with non-British beef.

You will still be able to enjoy the BK Chicken Flamer, Chicken Royale, Spicy Beanburger and all other items on our menu. Naturally, should circumstances change in any way, we will keep you informed through the press and our restaurants.

■ Burger King is a registered trademark of Burger King Corporation.
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CHANGING PARTIES, CHANGING IMAGE

Here is a list of things both favourable and unfavourable there is a list of things both favourable and unfavourable the test been said about various political parties. Please

pick the statements you feel fit the Conservative/Labour Party

LABOUR

Motorway

toll trials

at risk of

collapse

JONATHAN PRYNN

TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to charge drivers for

using the motorways are close

to collapsing after the with-drawal of four of the eight

companies selected to test

electronic tolling equipment on the M3.

Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, is plan-ning to postponse indefintely the £20 million trials on a

stretch of the motorway near

Basingstoke, according to to-day's edition of The Economist

magazine. The equipment on trial is designed to charge cars

and Jorries automatically as

they drive past roadside sen-sors. Smaller scale off-road

tests at the Transport Re-

search Laboratory will still go

The move is a severe setback

for the Government's trans-

port policy as Sir George is determined to make motor-

way users pay more to help to

offset the cost of pollution and

Railtrack buy-back scheme under fire

AND JILL SHERMAN

LABOUR is expected to face criticism from the Government and left-wing backbenchers today as Clare Short unveils the party's policy for returning Railtrack to public

The proposals are expected to commit Labour to renationalising Railtrack but are unlikely to detail how or when. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has strongly objected to more radical plans, drawn up by John Prescott and Brian Wilson, Labour's rail spokesman, on the ground of cost.

The likely wording of the proposals, due to be announced by Ms Short at a conference in Swindon this afternoon, will emphasise the importance of restoring Railtrack to public ownership

as resources allow". Many ideas on how this would be achieved have been considered by the party leadership but all have been found to have legal or practical flaws or have drawn strong objections from one or other senior party figures.

achieved most widespread agreement and is likely to be announced today involves a transfer of the E2 billion rail subsidy from train operators to Railtrack, giving a Labour government far greater control. In the meantime, Railtrack shares would be gradually bought in the market, to provide a controlling

stake over time. Advisers to Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, said that he was eager to attack the proposals after enduring a year of Labour criticism over rail privatisation. Several Labour MPs are already consdemning what they see as an impractical fudge. One said: "Switching subsidies is about control not

about ownership."
□ British Rail, which employed nearly three quarters of a million people at its peak in the 1950s and still has a payroll of 80,000, is to be reduced to a rump of 60 staff by autumn of next year. The board will be slimmed down to a chairman serving parttime and three non-executive directors.

Labour will be vulnerable to attacks on policy

Voters are lured by Blair and image of moderation

By Peter Riddell

LABOUR'S high poll ratings since autumn 1991 are meareflect strong approval for Tony Blair and the party's moderate image rather than enthusiasm for the rest of the leadership team and its The latest MORI poll for

The Times, undertaken last weekend, shows how far Labour has improved its image compared with the Tories over the past few years, but it also shows where the party remains vulnerable. In September 1991, six

months before the last general election, the Tories had a more favourable rating than Labour on ten out of 14 measures of image. The Tories were rated more favourably for moderation and being professional in their approach. They were then less likely than Labour to be seen as divided. The exceptions where Labour was ahead where the measures on representing all classes and on being in touch with ordinary people. But now Labour is more favourably regarded than the Tories on all but one of the 14 measures. The exception is the ambiguous measure of being too dominated by its leader, though the differences here are small.

The most striking changes

sures such as being divided. understanding the problems facing Britain, having sensible policies and having a good team of leaders. The internal Tory arguments of the past few years have taken a big toll. The proportion regarding the Tories as divided has jumped from 14 to 48 per cent since 1991, while the number view-

ing Labour as divided has declined from 29 to 17 per cent. Moreover, there are no signs of any improvement in the Torics' image compared with when the same questions

Blair: strong appeal

were last asked in October MORI has analysed the figures to look at the views of those who have swtiched to

support Labour since the 1992 general election. These are the voters who will decide the next election, depending on how many remain with Labour as opposed to switching again to the Tories or the Liberal

These switchers are satisfied with the way Mr Blair is doing his job as Labour leader by a 73 to 14 per cent margin, slightly higher than among Labour supporters as a whole, including long-term loyalists. Moreover, 26 per cent of these new Labour switchers regard the party as moderate, compared with 19 per cent of Labour supporters as a whole. By contrast, these switchers

are less convinced than Labour supporters generally that the party has sensible policies (35 to 44 per cent), a good team of leaders (27 to 35 per cent) or will promise anything to win votes (20 to 14 per cent). This suggests that these switchers motivated more by Labour's non-threatening image — Mr Blair's approach as leader and the belief that it is moderate - than by enthusiasm about its policies or its general leadership team. This shows where Labour might be vulnerable to Tory attacks during the long pre-election

latest poll is that the previous gender gap of support for the parties has, at least temporarily, been reversed. Since the end of February, support for the Tories among men has risen from 22 to 29 per cent, and has dropped among women from 29 to 27 per cent. There is no obvious explanation for such a switch in just a month, though the beef row could have had some effect. It will only become clear in a month or two whether this is the start of a sustained

trend. The MORI economic optimism index — measuring those who think that the

The poli also suggests that the image of the Liberal Dem-ocrats has changed little since 1991 except that the number regarding the party as divided has halved to 5 per cent. In 1991, the Liberal Democrats were still suffering from the arguments over the merger in Among other features of the

> the country will improve rather than get worse over the next 12 months - has hardly changed over the past month

> > ☐ MORI interviewed a repre-

1.910 adults at 143 ward sampling points betweem March 22 and 25. Voting intention figures exclude those. who say they would not vote (9 per cent), are undecided (9 per cent) or refuse to name a party

treatment of crash victims. Officials are now dusting down previously rejected methods for imposing the tolls. The most likely is seen as

a Swiss-style annual motorway permit that would have to be displayed in car windscreens. However, this is seen as unfair on drivers who use motorways only a few times a year. Toll plazas as used on the Continent have been ruled out because they would require building over huge swaths of protected land.

The fatal blow for the motorway trials came last week when Tollstar, a mainly British consortium regarded as one of the favourites to run to tolling system, said it was likely to pull out. Three groups, Siemens, Tollway and Autolink, had already withdrawn.

That left only four of the original eight trialists, all but one of which deploy similar forms of technology. At least one is also believed to be reconsidering its part in the trials, for which the bidders have to pay.

A senior Tollstar source said: "We were being asked to spend EI-E2 million on the offchance of an order coming in 🕏 about 2004. Unless they can find a way of significantly reducing the costs it just does not make sense."

Tories offered little to encourage early election

on't bet on an early general election. Of course, the Goverament may be forced into calling one this autumn merely to avoid losing the political initiative over the winter. Its one-vote majority on Wednesday after a Labour ambush on a VAT amendment to the Finance Bill could be a pointer to diffhangers ahead, especially if the Tories lose more MPs in byelections or defections. Some economists believe that the autumn could be the most favourable time in terms of living standards and interest rates, especially if Kenneth Clarke has little room for manoeuvre to cut taxes in November. The odds on October or early November, ahead of the Budget, may have shortened recently, but this is still a fall-back contingency rather than a preferred

The predominant Labour view is

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

that the Government will somehow survive, or perhaps stumble, into the New Year, relying on one or other Unionist faction in close votes, as happened over the Scott report. This outlook could change in late January or February if the Unionists decide they would benefit from bringing down a lame-duck administration. Until then, Labour leaders believe that the Tories should be reasonably safe in the Commons.

That was the conclusion drawn by one of the shrewdest Commons observers when he heard about Tony Blair's plan to ballot Labour's 365,000 individual memters this autumn on an early version of the party manifesto. He was partly right. The plan is intended to give the party a new sense of direction after a loss of momentum over the past two months. The production of policy papers, the early manifesto, the subsequent consultations, the party conference debate and the ballot will take until the second half of November at least - and then we

will be into the Budget and the early stages of campaigning. The need for such a ballot to bind in Labour MPs, as well as local activists, to the party's programme was underlined yesterday by the rumblings of dissent by 50 hard-left and sceptical MPs against a single European currency. They are by no means as influential as the Tory sceptics, but their statement was a warning signal of probable troubles in office. The existence of these dissenters is also why Mr Blair is leaving the door open to the Liberal Democrats and — who knows? — to

informal support from the rump of Tory pro-Europeans after the election.

There is, however, an escape route in Labour's plans. The membership ballot would obviously have to be abandoned if there is an October election, but the document itself the manifesto minus tax details -will be produced by June and therefore ready for the autumn.

There is little in the latest MORI poll to encourage the Tories to go for an early election. The voting intention figures are being buffeted around each month by events like the Harman row, the Scott report and, now, beef. There appears to have been a gradual pick-up in Tory support since last summer, as indicated both by the polls and the party's successes in local council by-elections. So the worst is probably over, and local morale is no

longer deteriorating. But satisfaction with the performance of the Government as a whole of John Major as Prime Minister remains low, and the party is suffering from its divided image

Labour and Mr Blair are still riding high. But, as the accompany-ing report suggests, Labour's suc-cess is more because of its nonthreatening image and Mr Blair's appeal than because there is great enthusiasm for its policies or its leadership team. The Tories may get some mileage out of attacking the poor quality of some members of the Shadow Cabinet and policy doubts. But far more important is the probably vain, hope that the Tories will appear less distincted and look more competent as a

PETER RIDDELL

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Yorkshire Building Society Key 90 Plus	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.60%	4.60%	5.00%
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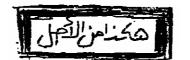
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Police admit losing British tourist's evidence of attack

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNES

POLICE lost a vital statement given by Paul Onions, a British tourist, detailing an attack by Ivan Milat, the alleged Australian serial killer, it emerged during the fourth day of the backpacker murder trial in Sydney yesterday.

A woman officer who interviewed the Briton after he was kidnapped and assaulted in January 1990 admitted that police had been unable to find the document.

With the help of her notebook from the time, Jennifer Nicholson, a senior police constable, remembered a visibly shaken Mr Onions arrivnear the Belanglo state forest, where the bodies of all seven murdered backpackers were found. But even though he provided important details of his alleged attacker's appearance, vehicle and place of work, the defendant remained free for another four years.

Joanne Berry, a mother of four who came to Mr Onions's rescue on the motorway after Mr Milat allegedly fired a shot at him and wrestled him to the ground, told the court he was "absolutely petrified and very close to tears" as he sought refuge in her van.

Please stop, he's got a gun. Mr Onions pleaded with Mrs Berry, seconds after throwing himself into the vehicle's path and flagging her down. "It gave my family a bit of a fright," she said. The said. The

defandant's former wife, Karen, told the court that Mr Milat was rarely without a gun. He had a pistol which he would stuff down the side of his boot when he went out, even taking it to the cinema. He also had a revolver which he kept in a wooden case under her bed and hid under the seat in the back of his car

"Ivan just liked guns," said Mrs Milat, who was married to him for six years. "Ivan knew how to use guns and was confident about handling

whenever he travelled.

They went to the Belanglo state forest four times in 1983 and on one occasion her husband had shot two kangaroos. Clearly upset by the memory of their time together, Mrs Milat began to cry and was allowed to leave the court for a few minutes to compose herself. She described how he kept himself strong by using a 2in galvanised pipe with plastic buckets of cement at each end for weightlifting. "Ivan was a very fit person who did weightlifting every night of the

dant's sister-in-law, again inination that she did not change the date of a photograph showing the accused man, in order to prove he could not have killed Caroline Clarke and Joanne Walters. British backpackers, at Easter

1992. The prosecution claimed that Ivan Milat had written on the back of the photographs, indicating they had been taken on a camping holiday in 1991. A vehicle registration sticker on a car in one of the pictures also showed that it expired in August 1991.

Mrs Milat said she was wearing a pair of shoes in one of the photographs which she' had bought in the United States after Easter 1991. "Are you deliberately seeking to give evidence in an attempt to protect Ivan Milat?" asked Mark Tedeschi, for the prosecution. "No, no," she replied.

"I suggest you changed 1991 to 1992 after you found out that Ivan Milat had been charged with an offence that occurred at Easter 1992," he went on. "No," she insisted.

Ivan Milat, 51, has pleaded

not guilty to killing seven tourists and kidnapping an eighth. The case continues. Assault case: Police were last night investigating a complaint against William Milat. a brother of the accused man, after Warren Clarke, a Sydney Morning Herald photographer, was allegedly assaulted outside the court. Television film showed William Milat punching the cameraman who was attempting to photo-graph him and his wife, Carolynne. Police said they would watch the video evidence before deciding whether



The Queen and President Havel of the Czech Republic at the Brno city hall yesterday as 50,000 people turned out to see the royal visitor

Cheering Czechs greet the Queen's city walkabout

FROM ALAN HAMILTON

NOT since the Queen visited South African black townships last year has she drawn such crowds as turned out

the Czech Republic yesterday.

Police estimated that at least 50,000 people, with many more crowding ipstairs windows, were on the streets of Brno, the country's second city, to catch a glimpse of the Queen as she made a four-hour visit accompanied by President Havel.

Distinguished visitors to the Czech lands rarely venture beyond Prague, and if they do it is only to some small

but picture-postcard pretty Austro-Hungarian town. Brno, the joint birthplace with Enfield of the wartime Bren gun and still a big arms-manufacturing centre, is industrial, strewn with ugly tower blocks and has

a population of 400,000. British officials were delighted, but not wholly surprised, by the huge turnout to see the Queen. Since it opened three weeks ago, an exhibition of replicas of the English and Scottish crown jewels in Brno city hall has drawn 25,000 visitors, proving that those parts of Central Europe once ruled by the Habsburgs still have an appreciation of hereditary monarchy. The crowd, which packed the main

square and every side street, cheered and applauded as the Queen made a brief appearance on the city hall balcony to tell the population how delighted she was to be in Brno, "at the behalf of the British people, she wished the city prosperity and a successful future and gave it a brief wave of a black-gloved hand.

Queen and President then went on a short walkabout through one of the city's broad main streets, with tendeep crowds waving paper Union Jacks and Czech flags.

The Queen has proved hugely popular in Poland and the Czech Republic, where she is seen as a

symbol of stability above governments as much as the representative of a nation within the European Union and Nato which both countries are anxious to join.

Czech feelings towards the Queen were summed up during a visit to Brao's Constitutional Court. where Judge Ivana Janu, the court's vicepresident, told the Queen: "We greatly appreciate the fact that you are making your first visit only now, and that you never accepted the invitation of those who ruled here without the legitimacy conferred by free



1, R 3, Q

THE cach: The I 1995-THE Cana

Voyage in naturalist's wake

to bring charges.

BY PAUL MAYNARD

THE adventurer Tim Severin tok in Russia, in an attempt to yesterday set off in a makerow 6,000 nautical miles to shift yacht to follow the path San Francisco. It will be his of Alfred Russel Wallace, the third attempt to cross the 19th-century naturalist, in circling the treacherous Indone-

sian archipelago He set sail from Warbal Island in the Kei group in a boat constructed by islanders, using only locally gathered materials. Mr Severin, 55, was the second Briton to begin a risky voyage. Peter Bird, 43, left Vostochny, near Vladivosthe crusader forces of Guy de Bouillon across Europe to Jerusalem on the breed of horse which the medieval soldiers used.

Mr Severin, who lives in Co His latest trip is scheduled Cork, has a more successful to finish in Sulawesi after a record, which includes cross-1,200-mile trip. Wallace, whose route Mr Severin is ing the Atlantic in an attempt demonstrate that St retracing, travelled the area in Brendan was the first to sight the 1850s and 1860s. His America. He has also travelled correspondence with Charles extensively in China and Darwin is credited with help-Mongolia on horseback, as ing the development of the well as retracing the path of theory of evolution.

'feminist' nuns

THE Pope yesterday called on nuns to promote a "new feminism", arguing they have a right to take part in decision-making at all levels of the Roman Catholic Church (Ruth Gledhill writes). But he said that women should not imitate "models of male

In an exhortation, Vita Consecrata, he said the Church depended on nuns for new efforts in fostering Christian doctrine, morals, family and social life.

Pope calls for Briton in baby-smuggling trial

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN BUCHAREST

A BRITISH man goes on trial child, who has nine brothers, in Romania today charged with trying to smuggle into Hungary a 15-month girl hid-

den in the boot of his car. John Boast, 46, faces a jail sentence of between three months and two years. Vergiliu Rosca, the prosecutor, said. He added that the case was "complex and delicate" and it appeared that the aim was not to make money

out of abducting Laura Varga

had been abandoned in a hospital at Oradea, in the northwest, at birth and her parents are believed to have given up all rights to her. She is currently with foster parents

Mr Boast, who works for a British charity, was arrested last December. He was freed on condition that he did not leave Romania pending his trial. Mr Rosca said that Mr but to give her a better life. The Boast had denied the charges.

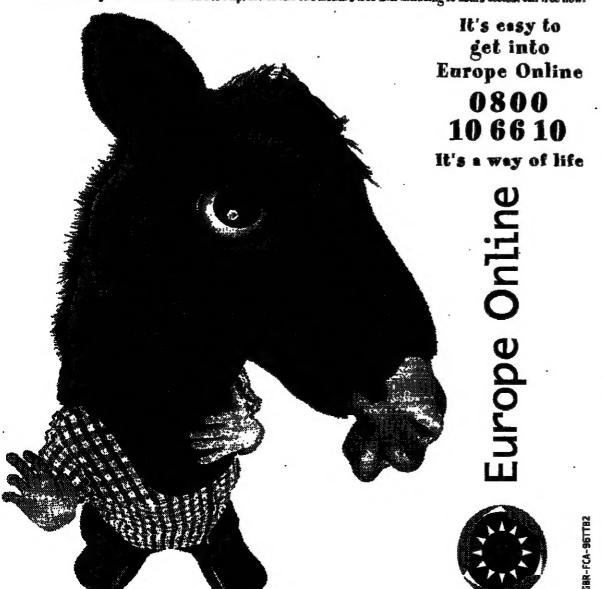
saying that he was arrested while driving Varga back to the hospital after taking her for a ride in his car.

The estimated abandoned children in Romania and their poor living conditions have attracted Western couples wanting to adopt. Of 1,789 adoptions by foreign couples in 1995, only 1,070 were approved by the Government, the others apparently allowed by officials for a "consideration"

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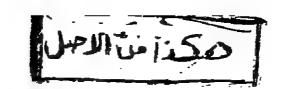


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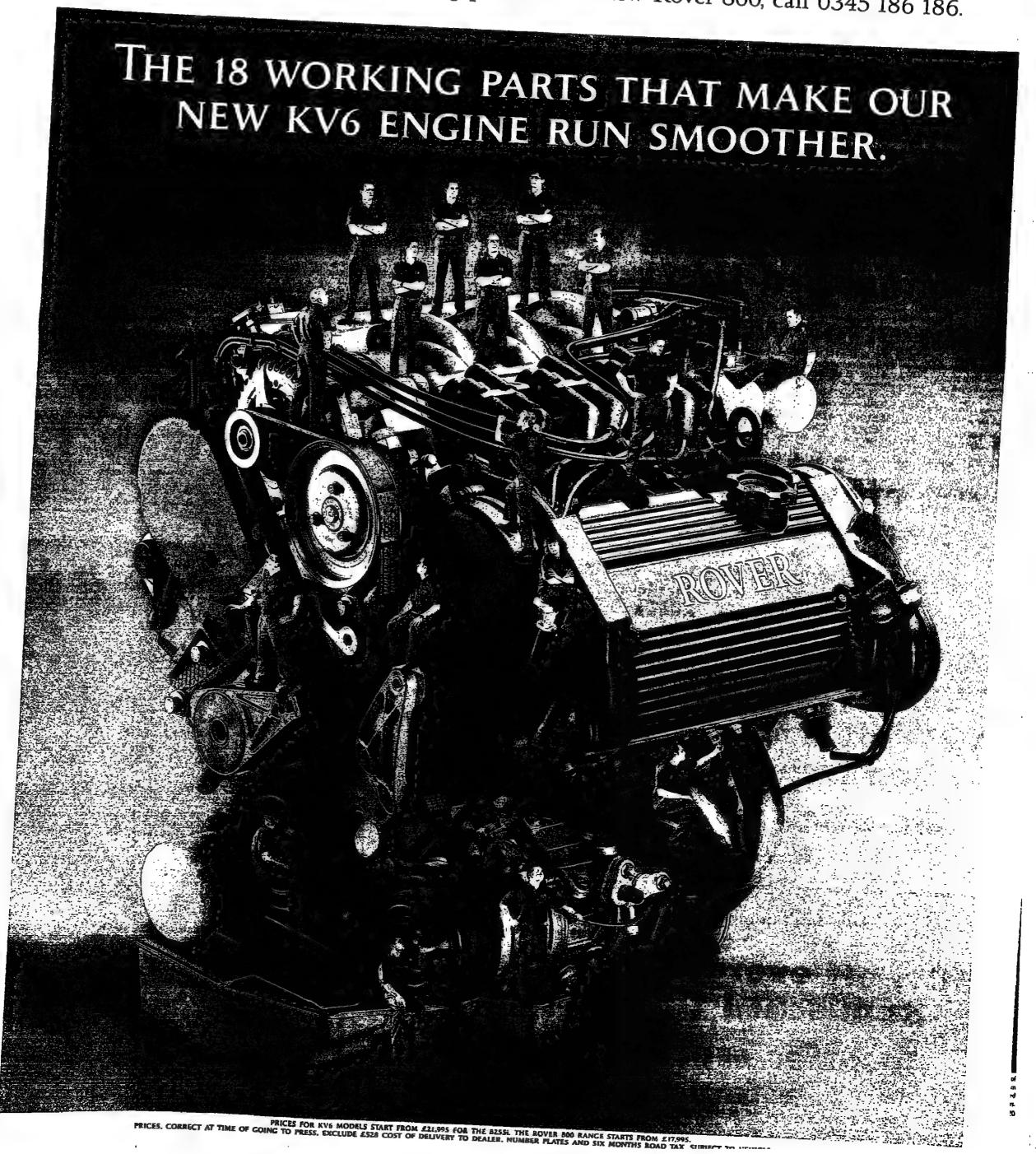
"We'd like to make a few changes to our 800 Series," we said. "Starting with the engine. 2.5 litre, 24 valve would be good, perhaps based on the award-winning K-Series. It should be capable of 175PS. And, of course, with this much power, you'll have to design a new engine management system to ensure it's delivered smoothly. Don't forget to look at engine emissions, ROVER either. It would be great to get them down to 50% below EC directives. What do you think?"

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Labour plans attacked as mere vote-catching

By James Landale, Political Reporter

Cattle sales cancelled

JOHN MAJOR and Tony Blair traded furious blows in rowdy Commons exchanges yesterday as the Prime Minister attacked Labour's plans to resolve the beef crisis as

"public-relations nonsense". While Tory MPs accused Labour of scaremongering and using the issue to score party political points, Mr Major angrily told the Commons: "Labour is considering votes, we are considering the industry and the national interest."

Earlier. Labour launched an eight-point plan to restore confidence in the beef industry. It included stricter enforcement of slaughterhouse rules, backed by prosecutions; random BSE checks on brains of slaughtered cattle; publicapion of list of foods containing beef products; a safety review of mechanically recovered meat: a quality assurance scheme to show where beef comes from; a ban on all specified beef offal in human and animal food: the creation of a food standards agency: and an enhanced role for the Chief Medical Officer.

During Prime Minister's Questions, Mr Blair challenged Mr Major to reveal the Cabiner's discussions on measures to resolve the crisis and Labour's plans "which have already won wide-ranging support across industry". Mr Major said Labour's

motherhood, action that is already being taken and largely misses many of the matters that need to be dealt with".

Amid noisy scenes. Tory MPs repeatedly jeered at Mr Blair and several accused him of "speaking for Brussels". Holding up Labour's plans.

Mr Major said: "They call for proper enforcement of controls in slaughterhouses - yet they opposed the setting up of the Meat Hygiene Service. They call for random tests on the brains of cattle - completely irrelevant because we have stopped all brain products that could be affected from entering the food chain." Mr Major said the call for a

ban on specified bovine offal

doned at Europe's biggest

livestock market at Banbury,

Oxfordshire, yesterday as demand for beef evaporated in

the public panic over "mad cow" disease (Michael

Hornsby, Agriculture Corr-

into the ring and pork prices

soared by 60 per cent to a

switched to alternative meat.

Cancellation of the cattle

sales followed a 20 per cent

Only sheep and pigs went

espondent. writes).

proposal was "a mixture of from cattle under six months overlooked the fact that the advisory committee considered this to be unnecessary.

Mr Blair replied: "I do not think we have ever heard anything quite so pathetic." He said random testing of brains had been recommended by a government committee and scientists had said abattoir regulations needed to be enforced. Almost half the slaughterhouses were "not up to scratch" and none had been prosecuted.

Mr Blair urged Mr Major to stop shirking his responsi-bility. "Unless you can agree proposals now with the food industry, retailers and consumer organisations, so we present a united front, we will

75 per cent drop in the volume of animals being

Jim Watson, managing di-

owns the market.

rector of Midland Marts,

founded in 1925, said: "The

ANM Group, Europe's

largest livestock auction com-

pany which employs 530

country, is to shed most of its

workforce until the crisis

by them." Mr Major countered: "What is pathetic is this document. And what is also pathetic is this wriggling change of policy after you and Harriet Har-

back in control of events

rather than being controlled

man [the Shadow Health Secretary] did everything you could to extract maximum political advantage at the cost potentially of jobs in the beef industry and the national

David Harris (C, St Ives) urged Mr Major to avert the disaster facing the beef industry by bringing forward pro-posals for selective slaughter. Mr Major said a range of substantial options were under consideration but cautioned against issuing propos-als in a piecemeal fashion.

Paddy Ashdown, Liberal Democrat leader, told the Prime Minister: "If you bring forward an urgent plan of action designed to restore public confidence and make the British herd BSE-free as soon as possible, based on culling and other measures,

we will support you. Earlier, Douglas Hogg, the Secretary of State for Agriculture, condemned the hysterical reaction to the crisis and beef was safe to eat.

Letters, page 19



Tom Cope, a farmer near Lichfield. Staffordshire, says no cash would compensate for the loss of Flo. his prize Holstein Friesian cow. She produces 15,000 litres of milk a year, more than double the national average

Future for priceless pedigrees bleak as farmers await ruling

By Michael Hornsby and Andrew Pierce

MILLIONS of pounds could be wiped off the value of Britain's pedigree cow market. one of the most important in the world, if the Government orders a selective slaughter policy of cattle over a certain

The stakes are high for the owners of pedigree breeds. Some cows cost more than a two-bedroom cottage in the that their investments may end up in incinerators with paltry compensation.

Flo, a seven-year-old Holstein Friesian dairy cow, is the

most valuable in Britain with £75,000 price tag. Her owners. Andrew Cope and his father, Tom, from Huddlesford House Farm near Lichfield, Staffordshire, fear the

Andrew Cope said: "She is so valuable she is not worth insuring, because it would cost too much. She is recognised as the best dairy cow in the country. She was given a rating of 96 points out of 100 by the Holstein Friesian Society last autumn.

"We will not be affected much if they destroy cows at the end of their productive life. If they destroy all animals over a certain age it would be devastating. How could you be compensate for an animal

Flo, an elegant black and white cow, who was grazing placidly yesterday, is a prodimilker. producing 15.000 litres a year, more than double the national average. In an anticipated lifespan of 15 years, Flo will create progeny worth hundreds of thousands

Brian Draper, who keeps a herd of Holstein Friesians near Shrewsbury, paid 65,000 guineas four years ago for Grantchester Heather the 8th, the highest price paid for a cow. "We are in the lap of the gods," he said. "Some people are talking of a cull of all animals over the age of 30 months. It would wipe out most of our herd, which it has taken a lifetime to build up."

Anne Hardy, of the Holstein Friesian Society, said: "There are about 1,600 animals registered with us which are classified as "excellent", with a rating of between 90 and 97 out of 100. It would be tragic if animals like this had to be slaughtered."

Peter Old, of Owermoigne, Dorset, paid 45,000 guineas in Perth 18 months ago for

Thrunton Ideal, a Charolais bull, a prized French breed. He said: Hopefully, the culi will not affect breeding bulls. but I also have a Charolais cow. Movmon Freesia, which is worth 25,000 guineas and won 27 trophies last year. We have never had a case of BSE

Barney Hodge, who paid £17,000 last year for Crichell Inspiration Pamela the 13th, a five-year-old Friesian, said: "I would not let her go for £50,000 let alone £30,000. She is a rapidly appreciating asset. She has great ancestry. Her grandparents, who were Canadian, were worth even

"She is one of the highest indexed cows in the United Kingdom. Despite the BSE scare I think was optimistic that the pedigree market would hold up." Mr Hodge said. "There was a tremendous sale in Penrith yesterday where calves were selling for an average £3,700. It is a confidence booster."

Doug Mash, from Chestiam, Buckinghamshire, paid 26,000 guineas for Di Di, aged

eight, a record for the Broadmeadow Limousin herd. If the pedigree market ... collapses, he will blame politicians and the media for twisting the scientific facts.

I don't know what Di Di is worth now. It's like anything else: she is only worth what ecople are prepared to pay. We have to stand firm. A slaughtering policy is not necessary," he said. "What is required from politicians is a public service statement, by the leaders of all three parties, supporting British beef. We have been used as political footballs by Tony Blair."

Norton & Brooksbank auction house in Tetbury, Gloucestershire, who sold Grantchester Heather the 8th, said: "It can be like the housing market. If it is rock bottom at the bottom, it can have a knock-on effect." Ian Kerr, the secretary of the British Limousin Cattle Soci-

Veal top

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Materials in

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Lord Rathcreedan, from the

ety, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary, was more upbeat. "There is about as much chance of pedigree cattle being exposed to BSE as there is of finding a man on Mars."



Grantchester Heather the 8th, which fetched a record 65,000 guineas at auction four years ago

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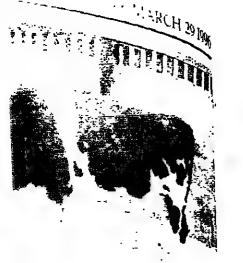
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Call for 'Euro-friendly' attitude

EU leaders rally to Major with relief for beef disaster

FROM CHARLES BREMNER AND RICHARD OWEN IN TURIN

EUROPE'S leaders will reassure John Major today that he can count on their largesse to soften the financial blow of Britain's beef disaster but in meeting to launch the Maastricht review conference they will also make clear that they expect a more Euro-friendly

expect a more Euro-friendly approach from London.

As Mr Major flew to Turin for the ceremonial opening of the year-long negotiations of the inter-governmental conference, Germany followed France in promising to make sure special funds were cleared to help to staunch Britain's losses.

"Solidarity also means money over and above that which the EU would be obliged to pay in any case," said Karl Lamers, a powerful figure in the German parliamentary group. It was "not always easy" to support the British, he added, but "quite apart from the psychological consequences of leaving Britain alone, there would also be severe economic consequences that none of us would want".

Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister, said that he planned to discuss the emergency with Mr Major before the conference opens this morning. The whole of Europe was affected and "we must find a solution commensurate with the gravity of the problem", he added

A decision at the leaders'



TURIN SUMMIT

level will be required for Europe to release relief aid. Estimated at about 11 billion. the handout will knock a hole in the common agriculture policy budget. Before the emergency, Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, had been aiming to persuade the 15 leaders to transfer spare cash from the agriculture budget to transport projects as a way of creating jobs.
The beef crisis has altered

the chemistry among the lead-ers as they gather. The quarantine has given physical form to Britain's stark political isolation from most of the other 14 states on Europe's future. At the same time, in the view of many EU officials, it has made Britain beholden to the EU and demonstrated the worth of "solidarity" among members. Mr Major is expected to raise the emergency as the first item this morning.

Senior officials from continental states said they were already detecting a gentler

style after Britain was forced to apply to Brussels for economic help. Erik Derycke, the Belgian Foreign Minister, said that Britain had behaved in a "much more conciliatory" way at a foreign ministers meeting this week, lifting some objections to giving the European Parliament an ob-

servers' role at the conference. Mr Major is expected, however, to make his own plea for Euro-solidarity, urging col-leagues to lift the crippling ban on British beef exports, He is likely to receive a frosty response, given the anger which has swept the continent this week over what every other country sees as Britain's inadequate response.

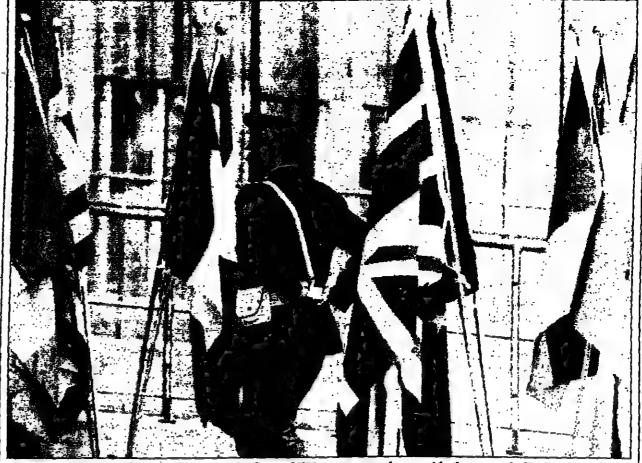
Although Britain is the most

isolated member as Europe starts renegotiating elements of the Maastricht treaty, other leaders also have conflicting positions. Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister, for example, is barely on speak-ing terms with President Chirac as a result of the French leader's attacks on his country's drugs policy.

Even the Franco-German permership is suffering strain. President Chirac has irked Bonn with his push for a separate European defence arrangement and his impassioned demand for the efforts of the EU to be devoted above all to creating jobs and protecting the "social rights" of its people. Bonn is wary of what sounds like a reversion to French protectionist instincts.

Italian officials were working last night to smooth over national differences on the formal orders to be given to negotiators. Britain was concerned that the instructions had the makings of a federal agenda. The position paper of the Italian Government this week defined the IGC's goal as fulfilling the federal vocation of the EU" at a time when it is rency and a common foreign and defence policy.

> Leading article, page 19 Letters, page 19



An Italian police officer walking past the flags of EU states yesterday outside the centre in Turin where the inter-governmental conference is being held. About 5,000 police will handle security at the opening today

Bonn offers cash to bolster unity

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

immigration and asylum poli-

cies, to move closer towards

making the West European

Union the military arm of Europe, and to build up the powers of the European

Over the past ten days

Germany has allowed its im-

patience with Britain to surface. Klaus Kinkel, the said he

that Britain was "simply

against any further steps to-

Yesterday David Davis. Minister of State at the For-

eign Office, hit back in a long

article in the German press.

"It does not help to assert that

European, while Great Brit-

ain's views are incorrect and

lacking in vision. We, too, are

a European country with a

wards integration".

Europe... history.'

"disappointed and sad'

Parliament.

GERMANY'S key European strategists proposed yesterday that extra funds should be made available to help British farmers with blighted cattle. Wolfgang Schauble -- right-

hand man to Helmut Kohl. the Chancellor - and Karl Lamers, his fellow Christian Democrat, were trying with their surprise offer to take the sting out of the dispute between Bonn and London over the future of Europe.

Herr Schäuble said that the crisis would demonstrate to the British that the European Union is "essential in solving such problems". Herr Lamers said: "Britain is in an unusually difficult situation. We do not want merely to impose bans but also to show solidarity

The two men, setting out the German stall for the conference, made clear that Bonn's aims have stayed constant: to extend majority voting, to

dictate agenda By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT AS JOHN MAJOR seeks Eupush forward with the rope's help for his beleaguered Europol police network, to beef industry in Turin, he is formulate common European

fighting on an agenda that is largely dictated by a bluff Nottinghamshire farmer. Sir David Naish, president of the National Farmers' Union, aimost single-handed-

announced by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, in the Commons on Monday. Yesterday Sir David's scouts were in Turin, in advance of the European Union's inter-governmental Conference, seeking financial

uchetti, the ore gency session of the council next Monday in Brussels. It is

ironic that it has taken proba-

bly the greatest threat to farming this century to galvanise a body whose influence has been shrinking for

ly forced the Government to abandon the do-nothing policy

NFU seeks to

support for action to salvage the British beel industry.

David Evans, the NFU's director-general, met Walter European Union's Council of Agriculture Ministers, and secured agreement for an emer-

decades as control over agricultural policy moved to Brussels and the weight of the farming vote declined.

Sir David, who runs a 1,100acre sheep and arable farm at Budby in Nottinghamshire, became president of the NFU in 1991. His initial instinct was to keep a low profile over BSE. However, within hours of Mr Dorrell's failure to announce new measures on Monday, swiftly followed by the EU ban on British beef, the NFU convened a meeting of leading food retailers and manufacturers, and got their backing the end of their productive life. On Tuesday Mr Major was forced to admit that the Government was actively considering the NFU proposal.

Threat by French to slaughter cattle

Paris: Cattle of British origin in France will be impounded and may be slaughtered, the Agriculture Ministry said yesterday as the French beef market plunged again (Ben Macintyre writes). Responding to demands

from French unions that no British beef be allowed to reach the domestic market. Philippe Vasseur, the Agriculture Minister, said that 70,000 British-born calves aged under six months would be

rounded up and confined.

A decision on whether to destroy them will be made on Monday. Stocks of frozen and fresh British beef in France will also be impounde

Germany to label ʻclean' stocks

Bonn: All beef imported by Germany is to carry a certificate declaring it does not come from Britain or Switzer-land (Roger Boyes writes). Horst Seehöfer, the Health Minister, said he was issuing the order in the absence of any firm European Union and control of suspect cattle

Greece destroys imported meat

Athens: Greek authorities impounded 40 tonnes of British beef around the country and ordered its destruction, after a 75-year-old man died from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease Dohn Carr writes). A second man is in a serious condition with the disease. An average of four people in Greece die of CJD every year without it being linked to BSE.

Hong Kong ban

Hong Kong: The import of British beef was banned by the Hong Kong Government after critics had accused the administration of ducking the issue out of political motives and complaints by butchers that beef sales were falling.

Veal tops the menu

Torin: The European Union leaders will be lunching on veal today, but their hosts insist it will be from local Piedmont cattle (Rich-

ard Owen writes). While the leaders are eating at the Meriden Hotel. next to the Lingotto Conference Centre, the For-Fiat car factory built in 1917,

SPRING

which still has its car-testing track on the roof.

The heads of government will be served mixed vegetables, followed by aspara-gus, fillet of veal and wild fruits. The Foreign Ministers will eat bresnole, a dish of air-dried raw beef thinly sliced and served with oil tina cheese. They will end





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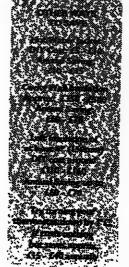
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WASTING ENERGY

COSTS THE EARTH



THE reputation of Israel's areas, and a weakness in the

internal security service, the

Shin Bet, was destroyed yes-

terday by the state inquiry into

the assassination of Yitzhak

Rabin which accused it of in-

competence and failure to

come to grips with intelligence warnings that the late Prime

Minister's life was threatened

by far-right Jewish extremists.

The report by the three-man commission led by Meir

Shamgar, the former Chief

Justice, was one of the most damning published in the 48-

year history of the Jewish

state. It dismissed conspiracy theories surrounding alleged right-wing involvement inside

the security services, but failed

to convince all Israelis as 118

pages remained classified and

were last night being studied

behind closed doors by a select

Bet, the equivalent of MI5, and

the performance of the Tel

Aviv police who failed to pro-

vide adequate protection at the

peace rally where Mr Rabin

was killed, the report also

called on the "reborn state of Israel" to learn the lessons of

2,000 years of Jewish history

and conduct "comprehensive

soul-searching", especially in

its education system, to pre-

sions . . . reflect the conceptual

"Our findings and conclu-

vent inter-Jewish violence.

As well as criticising Shin

group of Cabinet ministers.

Errors of Israel's

MI5 condemned

by Rabin inquiry

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

management culture of gov-

ernment authorities," the re-

port concluded, after hearing

72 witnesses at 61 sessions,

most of them in secret. "In this

respect, this report serves as a

signpost and a warning for

The publication of the re-

port, a day after Yigal Amir.

Rabin's unrepentent Jewish

murderer, was sentenced to life imprisonment, coincided

with warnings from Shimon

Peres, the assassinated lead-

er's successor, that there were

still right-wing Jewish threats against his life and a similar

claim by Rabin's closest aide,

Eitan Haber, in an article

which shocked many Israelis.

Among us live more citizens

who think like him, who speak

the same hollow cliches, who

have pistols but no inhibi-

The commission exposed the inability of the Shin Bet

director, who has resigned,

and those under him to grasp

the significance of a potential

right-wing threat against Ra-bin, although he had been labelled a "traitor" and "mur-

derer" by right-wing Jews

angry that he was handing

back parts of Eretz Israel (the

biblical land of Israel) to the

Palestinians under the 1993

tions," Mr Haber wrote.

"Yigal Amir is not just one.

many other institutions.

tended the [November 4] rally.

It took place at a time of real

risks of attack from extremist

Arab terror organisations and

of sharpened threats of an

attack against the Prime Min-

ister by a Jewish assailant," the report stated. "The com-

mission determined that the

threat of a Jewish assailant

was not sufficiently empha-

Carmi Gilon, the former Shin Bet chief, said last night

he accepted responsibility, but

claimed the commission had

not dealt adequately with the

difficulties of preventing at-tacks by Jewish extremists.

☐ Palestinians held: Israeli

forces continued their crack-

down against Islamic extrem-

ists, arresting almost 400 Palestinian students from Bir

Zeit University in the West

Bank, in an operation that

restricted raids to areas still

under control of the Jewish

Most of those arrested in the

pre-dawn swoop originated

from the Gaza Strip, strong-

hold of Hamas, the Islamic

The university administra-

tion condemned the arrests as

an "unprovoked, indiscrimi-

nate and illegal invasion" of

the villages where the students

live. Yassir Arafat, the Pales-

tinian Authority president, ac-

cused Israel of violating peace

state (Ross Dunn writes).

Resistance Movement.

sised by the bodyguards."

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

Clinton,

mired in

abortion

dilemma

PRESIDENT Clinton faced an acute election-year predicament yesterday as the Republican Congress approved legislation outlawing a lateterm abortion procedure.

Mr Clinton plans to veto the Bill, which would place the first limits on abortion since the Supreme Court upheld a woman's right to choose in 1973, but risks handing the Republicans a highly emotive issue because it outlaws a procedure called partial birth abortion which at first sight seems indefensible.

In another development presaging a historic cession of its power to the White House. Congress voted to empower the President to reject individual items without having to veto entire spending Bills. Presidents have long sought this "line-item veto" to curb the federal deficit. Mr Clinton and Bob Dole, the Senate leader and Republican presidential candidate, agreed the legislation should take effect from January, so either man would be the beneficiary.

The abortion Bill's supporters explained during a furious two-hour House debate how partial birth abortions involve removing the foetus feet first until only its head remains in the uterus, at which point the brain is sucked out so the skull collapses and can be removed through the birth canal.

The Bill would permit the procedure only if there was no other way of saving a woman's life, and doctors who performed the operation in any other circumstances would face up to two years in prison.

Successive Republicans said that the President would "go down in history as the abortion President" if he permitted this practice to continue. A spokesman for the National Right to Life Committee said: "We are going to make sure the public understands the implications of this veto - that babies are going to be stabbed through the head because of

the President." However. claimed the procedure was used very rarely and only in extraordinary cases. Mr Clinton had demanded a broader exception to protect the wornan's health as well as her life, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists said the Bill would substitute congressional opin

ion for medical judgment. Democrats and abortion rights groups accused the Republicans of launching a far broader offensive against abortion and playing electionpassed the Bill by 286-129, but the Senate approved it by only 54 votes to 44, short of the two thirds majority needed to over-



Mrs Clinton and Chelsea admire the Blue Mosque in Istanbul yesterday before flying to Greece last night

Chelsea steals the foreign roadshow

By MARTIN FLETCHER

IF President Clinton believes his wife, Hillary, too much of an electoral liability to campaign for him this autumn he should send his 16-year-old daughter in

Chelsea Clinton is accompanying her

winning the same glowing reviews at home that she garnered when the two women toured Asia. She has shown poise, confidence, good humour and her father's gift for the gab", said one

a guided sightseeing tour of Topkapi palace, constructed between the 15th and

visited the Hagia Sofia museum, a Christian basilica built by the Byzantine emperor Justinian. The tour followed a private meeting with Tansu Ciller, the former Prime Minister. Chelsea and Mrs Clinton were due in Athens last night.

Woman unwilling

to join Dole ticket

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

Wisconsin --- as front-runners

for a role that has assumed

importance because of Mr

Pat Buchanan, the conser-

vative populist, was meeting

about 40 top supporters yes-

terday to plan strategy now

Mr Dole has won the nomina-

tion. He has secured 2.5 mil-

lion votes, 23 per cent of the total, in the Republican prima-

ries to date. He wants a high-

profile speech at the San Diego convention and a plat-

form reflecting his opposition

to abortion, illegal immigration and free trade pacts.

Many backers want him to

run as an independent if his

☐ Yeltsin leak: The White House has ordered the FBI to

investigate the leak of a classi-

fied State Department sum-

mary of a meeting between

Mr Clinton and President

Yeltsin in which they agreed to

aid each other politically be-

fore the US and Russian polls.

wishes are ignored.

Dole's advanced years.

Yesterday she and her mother went on

THE only woman suggested

as Bob Dole's Republican

running-mate in November's

presidential election has taken

Christine Todd Whitman,

America's sole female Gover-

nor, has told Mr Dole she will

complete her first term in New

Jersey and seek re-election

next year because "we haven't

accomplished everything I

Having a woman on the

ticket would have helped Mr

Dole to erode President Clin-

ton's big lead among female

voters, but in other ways Mrs

Whitman was a risky choice.

She is an attractive personality

and committed tax-cutter but

anathema to social conservatives because she favours

abortion rights.
Mrs Whitman's withdrawal

and Colin Powell's continued

lack of interest leaves the

white male Governors of four

Michigan, Illinois, Ohio and

crucial Midwest states

want to accomplish".

herself out of contention.

peace accord. "Many people and many protected VIPs atand operational flaws in many

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Armed meme

THE TIMES !!

Land legac carn

Young Afghans dice with death in fields littered with booby-traps and discarded armaments

Landmines' bitter legacy brings more carnage to Kabul

LALAI began clearing mines when he was II. He started his story with the same words he used to finish it: "One morning I went into the fields to collect firewood." Rain had washed topsoil from the fields outside Koochkin, a desultory village of crumbled earthen walls and houses a few miles north of Kabul.

mired in

abortion

dilemma

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The area had been heavily mined by both Russians and the Mujahidin. As Lalai walked towards a piece of wood he noticed the exposed black cap of an anti-personnel mine. "I needed the wood and I did not want anyone else to tread on the mine," he said. He dug it up with a stick.

Four years and more than 400 mines later. Lalai's reputation in the Afghan capital precedes him. There are many stories in Kabul, the most mined city in history, of children setting up freelance businesses defusing the lethal ordnance and selling it back to the government army, but it was Lalai that the Halo Trust, a British-based mine clear-

ance non-governmental organisation working in the Afghan capital, most remembered.

"We met him two years ago," recalled Dr Farid Homayoun, Halo's Britishtrained resident manager in the city. "We had just finished work on a minefield outside Koochkin when this young kid ran up to us with a bag of ten anti-personnel mines. They were still fused. He wouldn't give them to us, but wanted to sell them, as he said it was his profession. We couldn't talk him out of it, so we had to pay him 9,000 alghanis (\$1) for each mine.

"As we left he laughed at us. running through the minefield, shouting that he had ripped us off and that the



Anthony Loyd reports from Kabul on the dangers for civilians trying to eke out an existence in a former war zone

Afghan soldiers buy each mine for a quarter of the

Afghanistan has an almost supernatural aura of malice, littered as it is with mines, booby-traps and unexploded munitions. As we left Koochkin, where the villagers told us that Lalai was now based with soldiers in the former Soviet Embassy inside Kabul, we spoke to a group of three Mujahidin at an outpost by the edge of the road.

"Do not leave the track," the commander warned us, "there are mines everywhere." Two days later we saw the man again by chance. He was in hospital with most of his right hand missing. A booby-



Lalai: villagers called

trapped stick had exploded in his fingers as he stoked the fire. You cannot even smoke without worrying about the ush falling on discarded

weaponry.

At Kabul's Karte Se hospital, most of the young patients were mine victims, their skin stretched raggedly over their stumps. Amid a sense of ruined lives and stolen childhood, there were children without legs, hands or arms, and others blinded by shrapnel. Some had trodden on detonation caps, hit trip-wires, or picked up booby-trapped torches and watches

Dr Günter Wimholer, a surgeon working for the ICRC at the hospital, explained the realities of such injuries. "The mine explodes and usually the foot is completely, traumatically amputated, sometimes including the lower or whole leg. The blast destroys the leg muscle regardless.

"We usually have to amputate just below the knee. In 50 per cent of cases, the other leg is badly damaged by splinters. In a third of cases, bone fragments are shot upwards into the groin and stomach together with leather from the shoe. Males often lose one or both testicles." There was no such thing, it seemed, as simply losing a foot.

"It's quiet now, as it is inter," he added. "We've only had 25 amputations in 29 days. When agricultural work starts in the spring, it'll be

We found Lalai playing



A woman maimed by a mine tests her artificial leg at the Red Cross workshop in Kabul

cards with some young fighters in a burnt-out basement of the embassy building.

Now aged 15, savvy and streetwise, his hands moved fast as he dealt out the cards. "I liked clearing mines," he said. "I was good at it. The villagers called me the expert" and often asked me to clear their fields for them. I did it for

Lalai rolled up his left trouser leg to show the heavy

Allah," he said, explaining how the accident in which he lost his leg happened. "One morning I went into the fields

plastic prosthesis. "My fate is

cruel, but it is the will of

Red Cross study questions military value of weapon

By MICHAEL BINYON. DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

Briton is

seen alive

Tatray, Cambodia:

Christopher Howes,

36. a British land-

mine removal expert

and his interpreter, held hostage by an

armed gang, have

been seen alive at

a Khmer Rouge

guerrilla camp. (AP)

THE limited military value of tivating. He gives six main anti-personnel landmines is far ourweighed by the appallhumanitarian consequences of their use in conflicts, a study commis-

sioned by the Red Cross says. The study by Brigadier Patrick Blagden, a retired British mine clearance adviser to the United Nations, is one of the first to look at the military value of a primitive weapon now killing and maiming 20,000 civilians a year. With contributions from military

commanders from ten coun-

tries, the study ments to ban all anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgency.

The study says more casualties, impose bigger limits to tactical flexibility and do more to alienate populations than armed forces using them have

value is questionable: when armies clear minefields by roller, plough, flail or explosives the mines have no effect; they do not protect infantry and keep only small percentage of enemy troops out of action.

The study is powerful evi-dence which the Red Cross will put before a conference attempting to rewrite the rules on landmine use in Geneva next month. America has hinted it is ready to push for a total ban, and Britain wants much tighter restrictions.

Brigadier Blagden says mines dropped at random across fields and mountains would certainly cause vastly increased civilian casualties, even if they are designed to be self-destructing and self-deacreasons: mines will be dangerous during their active life; marking and mapping them will be almost impossible: in long conflicts they may be relaid many times; self-destructing devices may be unreliable: inactive mines can still be dangerous; and the mere presproduce fear, keeping civilians from areas important for their livelihood.

He disputes military claims that mines are of indispensable military value, adding

dryly that instead "their use for population control has regrettably been all too effective".

As an alternative to mines, it is suggested, armies could use ditches, lights, spikes and slippery surfaces, giving limited deterrence; barbed wire entanglement.

which could delay enemy troops; good intelligence and tactical flexibility to make static defence less relevant: and other munitions. The study says some governments are still encouraging the export of mines, which cost about \$4 (£2.6) to buy and

about \$1,000 to clear. Officials this week said all countries meeting in Geneva wanted to toughen the present UN regulations. There is agreement to make all antipersonnel mines detectable: the remaining obstacles, coming mainly from Russia, India and China, centre on the difficulty of monitoring a ban and the timescale needed to phase out mines from military stocks, with China arguing for

. Armed Zulus march in memory of massacre

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

MORE than 5.000 Zulus affiliated to the Inkatha Freedom Party commemorated a massacre in the centre of Johannesburg in 1994 by marching through the city yesterday. Many openly defied a police ban on carrying weapons in a show of strength against the ruling African

National Congress. Wielding rawhide shields, sticks and spears. Zulu men and women, many in colourful traditional garb, converged

Liebenberg: replaced

from within the ANC

on meeting points near the city before moving to the central business district. With heads and clubs held high they sang battle songs, ulutated and scowled, rushing forward in mock battle formations and chanting their defiance of the

Finance Minister quits

weapons ban. The march marked the anniversary of the 1994 Shell House killings, when ANC gunmen shot dead eight Inkatha supporters outside symbol of manhood among

ANC's Johannesburg

Johannesburg: President Mandela yesterday appointed South Africa's first nonwhite Finance Minister from the ruling African National Congress, signalling the end of the Government's attempts reassure international markets by reserving the job for a white outsider (Inigo

Gilmore writes). Announcing a Cabinet reouffle, Mr Mandela said Chris Liebenberg, a banker, had asked to be relieved of his duties and would be replaced by Trevor Manuel, the Trade and Industry Minister. The appointment comes at a difficult time when the rand is being battered on international money markets and yesterday, before the announcement, the currency fell again against the dollar.

headquarters while more than 50 were killed in and around the city. In anticipation of the march and demonstrations in other areas, the Government last week banned the carrying of traditional weapons in 74 magisterial districts. Inkatha said the ban was unenforceable and would lead to violence and unrest, mainmining that carrying spears was a

With helicopters clattering overhead the demonstrators were ilanked by thousands of heavily-armed police and soldiers as they marched through the city centre. At the front of the crowd a hostel dweller carried a placard reading "Mandela deserves a death sentence." Alongside him an induna (headman) in animal skins beat his shield with a club while singing about battle victories and chanting anti-

ANC slogans. Prospects of the march caused jitters in financial markets. The Shell House killings have remained a source of tension between the ANC and Inkatha. However, there was almost a carnival atmosphere and despite isolated reports of gunfire, stone throwing and tyre burning, the march passed off peacefully. This owed much to negotiations between the police and march organisers, and a reluctance to

sway the **Eiffel** tourists

From Ben Macintyre IN PARIS

TO SCOTCH the persistent rumour that the Eiffel Tower bends dangerously in hot and windy weather, the Paris authorities yesterday opened a new observation centre in the building that will allow nervous visitors to monitor the tower's movements for

For years Parislans have enjoyed putting the wind up tourists by propagating the much that the tower sways by as much as 30ft in certain climatic conditions.

According to scientists, the new high-tech monitoring system, using laser beams and installed on the first level of the tower, will demonstrate, among other things, that even on the the hottest, windiest days Gustave Eiffel's tower never bends by more than six inches.

The new observatory is part of a wider project to lure visitors back to the 1043ft "Iron Lady" of Paris, now undergoing her 18th renovation in 106 years.

The New Society for Operating the Eiffel Tower yesterday outlined a six-year plan for an extended undergound complex under the building, including a cinema, sandwich bar and left-luggage office.

Experts to | Zia steps down to clear way for election

tries. There was no official after prematurely dissolving

FEARS of violence gripped Bangladesh last night after Khalida Zia, the Prime Minister, agreed to step down and call fresh elections, closing a bitter feud with the mainstream opposition.

Soldiers in trucks and paramilitary troops patrolled Dhaka's streets amid widening tension as tens of thousands of anti-government protesters continued their siege of the government minis-

word on when Begum Zia, 51, would resign along with her 27-member council of ministers, appointed a formight ago after a disputed general election last month gave the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) almost all the 330 parliamentary seats.

fresh multi-party polls in May under the supervision of a neutral caretaker government parliament, which her political rivals refused to recognise as a legally constituted body. The main opposition parties which boycotted the February 15 poll accused government leaders of manipulating turnout figures by stuffing ballotboxes. Begum Zia blamed the nage" which left more than 110

The political turmoil which

began over a disputed byelection result in a rural constituency in Magura district in central Bangladesh in March 1994 led to street fights by armed activists of rival groups and arrest and intimidation of opposition leaders. Many believe that the members of the Awami League, the biggest opposition group, may try to settle scores with political adversaries after the fall of the BNP Government

Church 'bars grave of mixed-race baby'

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A BAPTIST deacon has been dress with pink bows. The demand that Whitney's body accused of ordering a newborn baby's body to be should be moved was allegeddisinterred because she was of ly made by Logan Lewis, the

mixed race and his church church deacon. "did not allow half-breeds". Sylvia Leverett, Whitney's The family of Whitney Johngrandmother, said: "He didn't care what we said - they son, who died 19 hours after her birth last week, say they didn't allow half-breeds." were told to remove the body A white relative of the baby from the graveyard of Barhas also reportedly taken the netts Creek Baptist Church in Thomasville, Georgia, after church authorities learnt that

church's side in the dispute. Mr Lewis said: "This is a Southern Baptist church, There's not any mixing of although the baby's mother was white, her lather was cemeteries anywhere in this Whitney was born without a

Miss Wireman, who claims to have been subjected to taunts of "nigger-lover", said: They just won't let her soul rest." At Whitney's funeral, free ricket to Heaven".

THE TIMES SCREENWAITING COMPETITION 1996

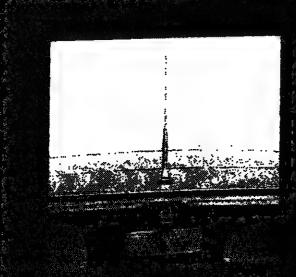
Your chance to become a scriptwriter

The Times Screenwriting Competition 1996 aims to find Britain's top filmwriting talent and offers a first prize of an allexpenses-paid trip to Hollywood to pitch a script before key executives at major studios. To enter collect four of the six tokens which will be published over the next week. Your entry should be in English, typed and double-spaced on A4 paper and in the following form: a) a 100-word precis which sells your film script and includes the title b) a treatment of not more than 750 words incorporating the story, characters, structure and genre, together with your name,

address, and daytime telephone number at the top of the first sheet, and c) three consecutive sample scenes submitted on a minimum of two A4 pages. Send your entry to: The Times

1996, PO Box 510, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU? 8QS. Closing date May 9, 1996. Full terms and conditions appeared in yesterday's paper.





Where's the best place to talk to people about cars? Cars.

properly formed skull to Jeffery "Bubba" Johnson, 25,

and Jamie Wireman, 18. Her

funeral was held at the 19th-

century clapboard church and

she was buried in a white

People in cars can't read and they can't watch TV. But they can listen to Commercial Radio. And they do, Fifteen million of them each week, Commercial Radio. Its time has come.

drinks not taken with meals. A colleague suggested we have dinner in the hotel restaurant and when the wine list was brought he said: "Drinks with meals are on

them, right?" I said yes. He ordered a bottle of Lafite 1953. I was a newish MP, he a Conservative former minister. I was ashamed. He said I was being foolish: "The more we cost them, the greater the respect they

will have for us; you will learn."
In the course of my five terms in Parliament (Heath, Wilson, Callaghan. Thatcher, Thatcher) no one ever offered me money to do anything dishonourable - Liberals were not considered sufficiently important to merit bribes - but went on about a dozen "free-

The mother of all freebies stocked with House of Commons gift-shop cufflinks and ashtrays

and returned with expressions of our hosts' friendship, usually in the form of ashtrays and cufflinks. It was harmless and pointless. The reasoning was that the Togolese knew they would not be invited to visit Britain unless they invited us to come to Lomé. So we went - expenses paid except for drinks, laundry and overseas phone calls.

I still have a silvery lapel pin depicting the President of that largely forgotten country, where I hope they still cherish my In Finland the House of Com-

mons ties and scarves got us each a hunting knife, a tin of ptarmigan pâté, some cloudberry liqueur and a mounted street map of Helsinki. They asked us to table an early day motion: that this House

tion of Scandinavian pulp imports.

Last Sunday I arrived in the United Arab Emirates as a guest of the committee of the Dubai World Cup: the richest horse race ever run, prize money \$4 million. I had been sent a

Club-class ticket: on arrival there was a stretch limo to the hotel. In my room I found a letter welcoming me to the event, explaining that all food and drink and laundry and

Sheikh Mohammed hands the trophy to owner Allen Paulsen phone calls,

enclosed was an enamelled silver badge inscribed "VIP Dubai World Cup" for my binoculars. dry cleaning were on them. Cars and buses would be available to There was an invitation to dinner and a rock concert on and from racetrack and functions:

travaganza in the desert on Tuesday. to the post-race banquet on Wednesday; and an embossed, multipocketed briefcase and a stunning heavy silk dishdosh with embroidered skull cap and black braids in

native. The next day they sent me a Tshirt a hat a leather cover for my passport, a handsome notebook and I nearly got a basket of fruit.

case I wanted to go

that ended up in the room opposite.
With the exception of D. Skin-

freebies, shuns the Commons tea room because it is subsidised and travels in standard carriages on his first-class rail pass, the modus vivendi of most of my political and journalistic colleagues embraces an element of prostitution. The hack whose response to the welcoming letter in Dubai was to ring his wife and ask her to Federal Express the washing cash on delivery, was an extreme case but I have no right to criticise. "We've already established what you are:

price," sums it up. The first running of the Dubai World Cup was a brilliant affair and the hundreds of guests who had been so lavishly softened up were now served molluses and crustaceans, smoked fish and baked meats, puddings and grande marque champagne (if one

now we're haggling about the

were hellbent on criticism, the caviare was not up to much). Had it rained, had there been a false start a steward's inquiry resulting in disqualification, a riol fatality, outbreak of camel disease or beriberi, not one of us would have had the bad manners to bring such a matter to the attention of our readers. Damn it there has to be a degree of give and take ... and we had taken.

kinner - who rather enjoys racing - would have accepted none of the proffered gifts, paid his own fares and found fault with nothing, for it was wonderfully well done and the Sheikh's thinking was probably on the lines of "I shall organise the richest race in the world: let it be in front of the most cosseted hacks and VIPs ever assembled.

What can one say? Long live Sheikh Mohammed. May his people prosper. I had a good time and got my suit dry-cleaned. It was the mother of freeloads Thank you. I still feel a bit uneasy.

Faith, hope and the Darwin man

Richard Dawkins argues in his new book that all living things owe their design not to God but to evolution. He explains why to Quentin Letts

aking his DNA into his own hands, the Darwinist proselytiser Richard Dawkins this week left his nest at New College, Oxford, and flew to the United States for a two-week lecture tour. The science author's itinerary includes California, Illinois and Georgia. More awkward, he will also be speaking in Ten-nessee, site of the 1925 "Monkey Trial" of a biology teacher called John Scopes who was charged with illegally teaching the theory of evolution to his pupils.

Seventy-one years on, Tennessee is again split by the issue. Dawkins, 55, is heading there just as a state senator. David Fowler of Chattanooga. schools to fire teachers who present Darwinism as fact. They do so at the expense of the creationist belief that God made Earth in one bound. Dawkins, the soft-spoken, unconventionally handsome Oxford don, is dealing with an issue that goes to the jugular of American Christian conservatism.

From the fastness of a New Jersey country bungalow, where he was staying with friends before starting his tour, a jet-lagged Dawkins pondered the opposition his ideas may generate. It would not be the first time. His bestknown books, The Selfish Gene and The Blind Watchmaker, have wounded Christians and drawn accusations from cononents that he is a "complete creep" and a "fundamentalist" against religion. to academic envy of the success of his books and his media profile, but anyone who puts a suction pump to the spiritual well of society, especially a society in desperate need of morality, must come in

Dawkins's new book is called Climbing Mount Improbable, a poetic cadence somehow suggestive of Lake Wobegone, Garrison Keiller's distant hill country where the men are strong and the women steadfast. Dawkins chose the title from a line in his 1991 Royal Institution Christmas Lecture for Children. when the metaphor was illustrated by a plaster-of-Paris model. On one side of the plaster mountain was a steep precipice, on the other an undulating slope, while on the peak sat a replica of a com-

The steep side was meant to reflect the creationist point of view. The gentle slope was



Dawkins is unshakeable in his belief that all creatures, this dungily included, descend from a single ancestor which existed three and a half billion years ago

evolution," explained Dawkins. "You can get up a mountain, no matter how high, provided you take the gentle slope. It is impossible the other way - even though that is what the creationists would have us believe."

The new book is a further ideas, written again in a cool, clear prose understandable even to scientific nincom-

poops. There is work on the evolution of the eye, an organ considered by scientists to be the temple of biological achievement but which has long been a favourite of creationists. Until now they have used it in their "now try explaining your way out of his research where in Dawkins and a computer scientist collaborated to make a computer gradually create a

"kaleidoscopic embryos", examining genetic symmetry. It is an odd thing to meet a man who truly has no belief in God, no hope of an afterlife or of divine remission for good behaviour. Yet Dawkins is polite, and happy to accept that it makes social sense for man to live within rules and behave in a civil fashion.

spider's web and snail shells.

There is also a chapter on

"One of the messages of The Selfish Gene was that we should learn about Darwinism because it is so horrible," he says. He does not go to church, nor does he pray, yet he retains an appreciation for beauty and is awed, in a very human way, when he tries to ponder infinity, the bounds of the universe. "It is one of the respects in which science is good for the soul." Soul? He corrected himself quickly. "I use soul in a poetic way, in the sense of awe and mystery, the sort of thing that causes a tingling in the spine. But I do not believe there is anything apart from the brain.

Some of the past controversy has occurred because this shy scientist delivers his beliefs with cold clarity. When Dawkins states his disbelief in the miracle of divine creation he does not preface his remarks with a "look, I'm awfully sorry if this upsets you". His has instilled in him a reliance on verbal concision and intellectual tension. To those of us in the cheap seats it may seem brutal, but to Dawkins it is simply the way things are done: nothing personal, even if it threatens a world in which we can only apply to God to make sense of Dunblane, a world sometimes so harsh that many of us need faith to

continue. in his youth Dawkins had religious feelings ("of course"), but in his early teens, as he

Exclusive serialisation of

Richard Dawkins's remarkable new

book, Climbing Mount Improbable.

☐ Also next week, an opportunity to

apply for tickets for the Times/Dillons

controversial Oxford biologist will argue

Forum on April 25, at which the

that Darwin has the answers to all

Nature's complexities.

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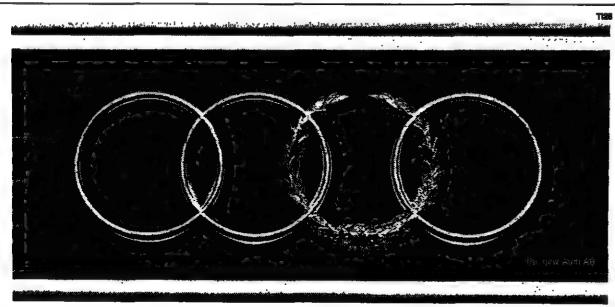
busied himself in the science labs at Oundle, he started to exercise a curiosity in the philosophical side of biology By his second year at Balliol this had started to evolve, if that is the term, into his belief that all creatures descend from a single ancestor which

t is the sort of creed that can land you in court in Tennessee. "In biology we are now back to the first self-replicating molecule," he says. "We understand in principle what happened, although the physicists are still wrestling over how we got a universe at all. We are just that tiny fraction of a second away from the first moment." Perhaps that fraction of a second was when the Almighty made

His move. I suggest, mentally holding aloft a copy of Hynt ... Ancient and Modern, "I don't find it a convincing line of thought," he says calmly. "It raises more questions than answers. The whole point of Mount Improbable is that you cannot have a spontaneous

The night before we met, comet Hyakutake had passed overhead, the brightest to zoom past Earth in 20 years. Dawkins watched it from a New Jersey field, and the following day was still excited by the experience. Comets are the very stuff of his world, visible proof of an extraterrestrial power that can be plotted and predicted, but which remains without our grasp. In Climbing Mount Improbable Dawkins describes how, when Halley's comet last passed in the Eighties, he took his twoyear-old daughter Juliet out in the midnight dark to point her face at the comet's dim glow.

Into the bundle's baby-soft ear, still warm from the cot, the doting father whispered, on a "quixotic whim", what it was that Juliet saw: a comet that would next sweep past in the middle of the 21st century. when he would be long dead but when she might still be alive, an old woman, to view it a second time and thus continue the Dawkins line. In that one moment, for all his clinical analysis, an avowed heathen showed that at heart he is really a big old softie.



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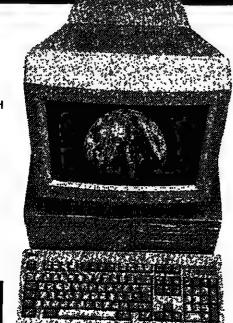
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Grand old Dukie says goodbye to the box

After ten years in which he fought to bring the BBC up to date, Marmaduke Hussey today gives up the job of chairman

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toll trials.

at risk of

collapse

DUKIE'S BOX is no more. Terry Wogan's long-running joke about the BBC chairman living in a cardboard box outside Broadcasting House culminated this winter in Dukie giving a large box to be auctioned for Children in Need. A lady named Judy Stapleton stumped up £3,000 for it, and last Friday, a demob-happy Marmaduke Hussey gave a breakfast for her and Wogan.

it was only at the BBC that Dukie - named for an uncle killed on the Somme - became Marmaduke. "I'd never been Marmaduke in my life. I'm rather attached to it now; can't think why I waited until I was 63. My wife says people think it's halfway between a duke and a marquess."

His wife, Lady Susan, fifth daughter of the late Earl Waldegrave and elder sister to he said. Bring that new tech-

William, is a ladyin-waiting to the Queen. He says 'I never her royal duties, 16 weeks a year. ("my saw the wife's job"), never presented any clash of interests in his role at the BBC. But Hussey's working life has

been embattled

veteran warrior of

old Fleet Street. In

youth, he had a

Princess interview before it went out'

point-blank range at Anzio, his right leg amputated in a field hospital. In his armchair, the is aware of the artificial leg, encased in straps, visibly emerging from the trouser. He cannot stand for long: at receptions he perches on a high stool, so his presence remains one of commanding height (6ft 4in). After years of spinal operations he was left in chronic pain which he claims, after 50 years, not to notice. He says, with the dismissive stiff upper lip of his class, that when you go into battle you are more frightened of being thought frightened: "It's the people who go back

into action that I admire." For a sportsman — son of an Olympic hurdler, captain of the first XV at Rugby - it must have been especially hard. He played cricket for Oxford against Cambridge in 1942, and was due to play rugby in the Varsity match just ten days before joining the Grenadier Guards. "I had tackled a formidable player and broken a bone in my right hand. The doctor said if I played I would probably have to postpone my entry into the Army. Tears streaming down my face. I

gave up the match." And lost his leg. Nevertheless he professes himself "astonishingly lucky" to have come upon "the worst shot in the German Army. He was

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nearer to me than that chair" From Oxford he joined the management of Associated Newspapers - "I thought the Daily Mail would be rather fun" - and then of The Times. ensuring a life of constant strife for a man of his invincible type: officer class, decent sort, doughty survivor,
"Behind the scenes," he

says, "there was a close affinity between myself and Len Murray, and Vic Feather. Senior trade union officials were very disturbed by the antics of the print unions. And I wasn't a giver-in." Hence the year's closure of The Times titles in 1979, an extreme ploy that frankly did not work. The Thomson Organisation was never solidly behind it. if Roy [Thomson] had been there, it would have been

> nology in, Duke'.
> "The turning point was when we went to Frankfurt and The Times was set in two-and-ahalf hours by five ladies in a Turkish printing outlit. It really rattled the unions. It proved it

way." There were earlibrief brave war, being shot at er plans that failed: such as merging the Express and Mail. "Historically, they were all efforts to break the deadlock. But they made it clear that something much more violent would be needed. It couldn't be done in a decent way, it had to be done in a rough way. And it was very Rupert [Murdoch], 'Once you get lorries through Wapping with the papers printed, you've won. It may take a couple of months.' Of course. he got there in one night."

> lest Street confrontations would erupt in the middle of the night when the presswould stop and the Husseys' telephone would ring at home "and Sue and ! would scramble across the bed to get to it first ... frightful. A very good training for the calm, easy world of the BBC. When he had the call from Douglas Hurd in 1986, to chair the BBC, he first consulted the telephone book to find out where his office would be, and insisted on keeping his HQ in Portland Place.

The BBC's very existence was under threat. He told them that they must bring in outsiders. "And that in return for an income of £1.6 billion, which Margaret Thatcher claimed was a compulsory levy enforced by criminal

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uncomplainingly by the British public, 93 per cent of whom watch or listen to our products every week' - we were obliged to offer something distinctive." He feels "rather conceitedly" that as an outsider he was more aware of the onslaught of satellite and cable than BBC senior executives, who had enjoyed a monopoly for 40 years and a cosy duopoly for 20. They found themselves bang in the middle of a multinational competitive business." The BBC was still pervaded by an academic, Civil Service ethos — "every-

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discussion" — anathema to a quick decision maker.

He was so determined not to be nobbled when he first arrived, he ignored Jeffrey Archer's phone calls (thinking the Tory deputy chairman wanted to conspire about the D-G's appointment) only to find that Archer just wanted to send him to Chris Beetles' gallery to buy a Heath Robinson drawing of The BBC photographing the first butterfly of summer. The drawing hangs on his office wall.

People always assumed an Establishment grandee would nave conflicting loyalties. When the Princess of Wales made her Panorama confessions. The Sunday Telegraph imagined breakfast chez the Husseys, with Dukie passing to his wife an advance tape of the programme. Utter nonsense, he says.
"I never had an advance

videotane and even if I had I wouldn't have watched, I have never watched a programme in advance, and have stuck rigidly to that rule. Why? Because the governors got into fearful trouble over Real Lives. "It is the executives' job to take charge of programmes. The governors set up a case law, after programmes have gone out. Over the radio programme My Country Right or Wrong, about our intelligence services, I was under heavy pressure to hand

over tapes to senior officials in

the Civil Service and in gov-

script, Dukie.' - and I flatly refused. So it ended up in court: they got an injunction, later lifted, and we transmitted the programmes unchanged. People in my position shouldn't impose

ow the charter batthe is won, a good moment to bow out. "We have made great strides and taught the BBC to be accountable. It's in exceptionally good nick now, riding high, more out-ward-looking. The digital rev-olution is coming, and so is the 24-hour news service."

Instead of endless dinners l am out every single night"). he will spend more time in Somerset, among Rees Moggs, Waldegraves, Bookers and family: a fifth grandchild has just arrived. He may write a book; he is mastering his new laptop just in case. "I've got lots of papers — and I suppose, in a way, I've had quite an interesting life."

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Times writers report from the BSE front line

It's a war out there

IN A strange way this week has been a little like the war. In fact, my mother said she couldn't recalt scenes like it since rationing. Women with bare shopping baskets scanning the shelves of supermarkets for something they could turn into a healthy meal for their families.

It started on Monday with a call from my friend Sarah asking if I wanted to join a group of her friends who were getting together for their own organic meat run from this marvellous little man in Wiltshire".

On Tuesday she rang me again to offer me the latest intelligence. "Holland & Barrett," she exclaimed. "Non-beef gelatin. But you'd better get down there quick because they are

Almost all my friends have been overcome by what you might call the Dunkirk spirit. Caroline came round for tea with five dozen home-baked digestive biscuits and Juliet faxed me the number of an organic market gardener who delivers to W4.

By Thursday the crisis had deepened. Sarah rang with the latest local directive — don't touch the lamb because The Sunday Times had suggested that it might be contaminated, and on no account buy anything other than free-range chicken.

In Sainsbury's that afternoon I stocked up on the kind of imported products that, in previous weeks, would have seemed unpatriotic. My mother's generation was known for keeping the home fires burning; my own, at least now, is fuelling the overseas economy.

in the fruit and veg aisle I bumped trolleys with a harassed looking Juliet who was staring suspiciously at the small organic selection. "You can't trust anyone," she whispered. "I mean if they're putting beef extract in fruit gums, apple juice and digestive biscuits, what else are they doing?" By now I had been infected with a similar hysteria, searching out the Vegetarian Soci-

Later, my mother told me that in the war when you couldn't get beef suet they had all sorts of curining substitutes. "My aunt used to have a recipe for Christmas pudding made

out of wood shavings," she said.

My father's advice was rather more cynical. "You could try whale meat. We had a lot of that when we couldn't get beef."

Privately I wondered if the Save the Whale generation could stomach the idea of whale meat, even if it was free-range. In fact, I am seriously beginning to wonder if there is anything left that my family can stomach. "Never mind," my father said, "maybe the Germans will send us food parcels."

JANE GORDON

UP AND DOWN the land. dinner parties are in disarray and experts on social etiquette are in a quandary. There seems no easy solution to the agonising dilemma: to serve or not to serve beef? Time for a letter to an agony

Dear Mary. We are having a rather smart dinner party next week. Henry's boss is coming and we've asked the local grande dame. who is an absolute stickler for etiquette, so we have to impress them. Ages ago, I ordered some best strioin from our butcher because I'm going to make boeuf en croûte, my speciality. Henry says it's not so much my speciality as the only thing I can cook, but he's exaggerating. Anyway, it's cost us an arm and a leg, or should I say a shoulder, ha ha, and I can't really cancel it. What's more. Henry's boss has strong views about what he calls these nonsensical food scares and Henry thinks there will be a lot of brownie

with beef. But I'm worried about the other guests. It could be bad form to insist they eat some-thing that might consign them to a slow death. So

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points if we show solidarity

To serve or not to serve beef?

what do we do? My chicken provençale was an absolute disaster last time. Yours, Distressed of Woking

Dear Distressed, There are several possibilities. You could ring your guests in advance and ask if they have any special dietary requirements, referring with a light laugh to the possibility that you might even serve beef, then try to judge whether there is panic in their voices. If there is, then on the night in question you discreetly offer those guests a salad, causing them maxi-

mum embarrassment. On the other hand, you could announce that you've nobly sacrificed your boeuf en croute in the interests of social responsibility but cannot answer for the chicken

provençale — then, in a neat piece of one-upmanship, tell Henry's boss that you've prepared one portion of beef just for him. The only risk here is that he might interpret it as an attempt to kill

I think the best approach is to cook both - beef and chicken - then announce that you have no qualms about serving beef from a good butcher, but that since some people are genuinely worried, you have an alternative in reserve. Try to indicate subtly that the chicken is very much second best (which it is). My bet is that no one will want to seem wimpish and they will all go for the beef.

Yours, Mary

Faced with something like that scenario last Monday. this is the solution we adopted. Mary was absolutely right. They all went for the beef - and rather enjoyed demonstrating their sang-froid in the face of another food scare.

So I am coining a new phrase for the etiquette book: "social machismo". It could be the hallmark of the late 20th century.

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■ Politicians may strut but they are not the real movers and shakers

The movers and shakers have flocked like pigeons to the handsome old city of Turin for their inter-governmental conference. Jim Naughtie will almost certainly refer to them on the Today programme, with a touch of pawky sarcasm, as movers and shakers. And we may reflect through the shaving-soap that m. and s. are not what they used to be in the days when the leaders of governments were giants whose faces and voices were recognisable. This modern assembly of grey men in grey suits consists of anonymous moders and quakers.

"Movers and shakers" has become so fashionable a cliché that it scores more than a thousand references in the British national press database for the past year. They can be found in every activity from international statesmanship to English cricket administra-tion, Washington celebrity hostesses and concrete sculpture. Lists of movers and shakers proliferate, and those not on the A list of Oscar parties or the Whitehall file of great and good feel excluded and envious. And the joke is that the modern use is the exact opposite of the original meaning. Arthur O'Shaughnessy, the forgotten poet, was referring to music-makers and dream-ers of dreams: "World-losers and worldforsakers,/ On whom the pale moon gleams:/ We are the movers and shakers/ Of the world for ever, it seems." "It seems" is a weak ending, but necessary for the rhyme.

O'Shaughnessy, a riptide wet romantic and friend of Rossetti and other Pre-Raphaelites, was making the paradox that poets are the true legislators rather than the politicians who strut and fret their hour upon the screen and then become vesterday's men and Mr Whos. He was not making an original point. Hard-up poets have always pretended so, from Horace declaring that warlords such as Agamemnon are remem-bered only because of the bards who tell their story, to Hardy asserting that the old man harrowing clods and the maid and her wight (he sounded twee even then) had a longer shelf-life than Dynasties passing.

ithin the past few years, the m. and s. sandwich has been grabbed and V turned topsy-turvy. The process started, as with much new language, in American politics: "The rich movers and shakers always manage to manipulate the Congress for their own benefit and screw the rest of us." And from there movers and shakers have taken over the stock of common rhetoric on this side of the Atlantic. are becoming a laughing-stock, and, in the usual pattern, will soon die of shame. H.W. Fowler called such common errors misapprehensions of which many writers need to disabuse themselves". Ones that are too recent to have incurred his rebuke are the delusion that prevaricate means to put off until manana instead of to walk and thence to behave crookedly; and the belief that an unlevel playing field gives an advantage to one side. They change sides at half-time, and to play up a slight slope slows the ball down so that your wingers can run on to it. The classic misapprehension is that "one touch of Nature makes the whole world kin" means. roughly, that fellow-feeling makes us all kind to each other. But Troilus and Cressida is cynical, not sentimental, about politics and love. What Shakespeare meant was that a certain tendency is natural to us all, viz.

O'Shaughnessy made himself an expert in herpetology at the British Museum, when he was not composing romantic poetry. Naturalists with zoological degrees were at first offended but then persuaded. Today he is remembered just for his verse about movers and shakers. And so he joins the select band of noets remembered for just one verse. Dean Burgon is another, with "A rose-red city, half as old as Time!" And he borrowed "half as

old as Time!" from Samuel Rogers.
Anti-Romantics mock O'Shaughnessy's Movers and Shakers as the ultimate in Victorian escapism, along with Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came, The Lady of Shalott, Byron, Keats, Shelley, et al. Movers and shakers are misapprehended to butter up strutters on the ephemeral stage. But music-makers are closer to real poetry than the too-clever verses of Pope, the poet for those who do not understand poetry.



Saving Europe from itself

he United Kingdom has often had to save Europe by her exertions. Today we must save Europe by our exhortations. We are facing a breakdown of British diplomacy. The diplomatic establishment is unable to see the threat of European Union clearly enough. It does not find the words and deeds to rally other European countries to our cause. It must do so before it is too late.

It is far from reassuring to be told that we are winning the argument" or that "Europe is going our way" when we face summit after inter-governmental conference and paper after meeting where the Franco-German integrationist bandwagon rolls on. Chancellor Kohi makes no secret of his intentions. He wants monetary union. The price for that monetary union is political union. What can political union mean unless it means a centralised European state in the German federal image?

Germany wants one flag, one currency, one foreign policy, one set of border controls, one anthem, one Parliament, one economy and one social policy for Western Europe. Anyone else would call that one state. It is a clear vision. Some believe that it would make us more secure and more prosperous. If I thought that, I would find it very attractive. The trouble is that it is likely to cause the opposite: more insecurity, more rows and tensions, fewer jobs.

The case for monetary union has rarely been made in Britain. In Germany and France the case against is treated as some kind of leprosy which the sceptical voters must be kept away from. We can see the strains that preparations for monetary union have already caused. A major diplomatic incident was sparked when Germany stated the obvious, that Italy would not

The dole queues are lengthening across the Continent as economies are drawn out on the rack of overvalued currencies necessitated by the Maastricht treaty rules. The United Kingdom had a bitter experience of preparing for monetary union while she was in the exchange rate mechanism, the necessary precursor of a single currency according

to the treaty. The single currency would require higher taxation to pay subsidies to the poorer parts of the Union. Just as Britain recognises our obligations to help Northern Ireland in our currency union, so we would have to help

John Redwood accuses British diplomacy of ignoring the threat to peace and liberty posed by Franco-German federalism

Brandenburg and northeastern France we were in a currency union with them. It would cause unemployment. Parts of the Union would find the exchange rates and interest rates not to their liking but would be unable to do anything about it. Britain has a mighty dollar trade. When we were in the ERM this was damaged by too high an exchange rate against the dollar. The same could happen to us if we exchanged sterling for the euro.

If countries are to move to single foreign policies, single armies and common frontiers they have to feel part of one nation. West Germany unified with East Germany in a hurry. It was very expensive, raising West German taxes by 7.5 per cent of taxed incomes and causing a big rise in unemployment in East Germany.

It is possible that people put up with it because they are one nation. They share all but their recent history, they speak one language, they feel German. Trying to put France, Germany and even Britain together would have none of that natural sense of nationhood to fall back on. A sense of belonging matters. I will never feel lovalty to a government where Germany has the most powerful voice. Nor will I feel sufficiently European to accept the authority of a European flag and government over my loyalty to my country, the UK. I speak for many millions who feel the same about their countries. I resent the idea that belief in my country threatens the peace of Europe. Britain has no imperial ambitions in Europe and is not about to declare war on our neighbours.

e are told that Britain is being difficult by making these elementary points. We are told that Britain must not hold things up. We must not miss out. If I joined a club I would, of course, wish to enjoy the benefits of membership. I do not want to spend all my time in club meetings arguing about perpetual changes to the rules. It is those who are never satisfied with the arrangements that are disrupting it all, not

us who wish it to calm down and prove its worth as a friendly group of countries trading together. My worry is that the kind of Europe Herr Kohl wishes to create will be an unemployed and miserable Europe, where identity and nationhood will have been suppressed too much and there will be endless wrangles as a result. I do not want to live in a federal state with 30 or 40 unhappy

Quebecs all trying to get out.
Nato has kept the peace in Western
Europe for 50 years. There is no need to change the arrangements that have worked so well. There would be a danger in disrupting them, especially if it jeopardised US support. During the long hard years of the Cold War, US involvement was essential to the preseration of our freedom.

Today we see Russia trying the paths of democracy and peaceful intent. Let us hope it remains that way. There are now several nuclear weapons' powers where once stood the Soviet Union. If any one of them turned to tyranny and became hostile to the West we could need the American nuclear umbrella again to guarantee our peace.

If we move too far in strengthening the Western European exclusive club the countries of the former Soviet Union could find that threatening. I do not think Western Europe would be safer for a defence merger of France and Germany. It would unbalance Europe. It would mark the failure of a long and honourable tradition of British foreign policy, to keep a balance of power on the

The big issue today is whether the European supreme court, the Court of Justice, is compatible with our vision of a free association of nation states. Are that Court's recent judgments a fair reflection of the treaty and the intentions of the members when they signed? I do not believe they are. We negotiated an opt-out to the social chapter in good faith, only to be told that the Court will override it. We passed an Act of Parliament to safeguard our fishing interests, only to be told that it counted for nothing. Parliament and the British

garden in Italy.

still visits every year."

Royal beef

in her came to the fore.

understands."

wellies to muck in on the beef cri-

sis. On hearing of the potential

help," says a source. "Country

matters are what she really

nation must awaken from their slumbers before it is too late. We must assert the rights of the UK to stand by our view of what we have agreed. Our right to self-government hinges upon the su-premacy of Acts of Parliament. If law is to be handed down by unknown judges in a far-away court, we have lost our ight of democratic redress.

Parliament is no stranger to struggles to uphold our liberties. In the 16th century, a simple Act of Parliament swept aside the jurisdiction of the Roman courts in England and Wales. Doubtless the equivalent of Foreign Office lawyers told the King it could not be done, it would violate European law. He did it and it worked.

n the 17th century, Charles I tried to rule without Parliament. The imposition of Ship Money caused a constitutional crisis. The King said he could raise it without parliamentary approval. Parliament disagreed, and eventually won in the Restoration settlement. Today a foreign court is levying its own kind of Ship Money, telling us that ve have to day compensation to Spanish fishermen from our taxation, whether Parliament wants to or not.

Our whole history is the history of expanding the franchise and increasing the rights of voters to a say in how they are governed through a sovereign Parliament. The growth of unelected power in the European institutions is a serious threat to our settled constitution. It must be arrested before it gets out of

We should stay in Europe for trade, for friendship, for co-operation. We must influence Europe for the better. We must rally all those who disagree with Chancellor Kohl's vision. We must speak for all those who wish to keep democratic self-government.

We must say that a single state forged out of the different languages, tempers, histories and cultures of the European peoples cannot work. We must show that there is a different and better way, a way that looks outward, thinks globally and welcomes the new technology that can keep us prosperous in a fastchanging world. A Euro-state with too much law and tax from Brussels would cut us off from the opportunities that the world and its dynamic changes offer. It is time for Britain to save Europe from

rself. John Redwood is Conservative MP for

Blairites . should be puritans

David Selbourne

on Labour and the moral order

wiven the scale of Britain's civic and social crisis - in education in family breakdown, in personal isolation, in the forms of violence, in the mistaken dispersal of public instintions to the market - what kind of moral regime is required of an incoming Labour administration?

First, the recurring cycles of national ethical disgrace, media frenzy, heroic acts of dedication, the placing of flowers at the scene of crime and a return to moral relativism (and despair) signify that something is seriously wrong. The largest doubt here must be whether Labour's adopted notion of "stakeholding" - whatever it may mean - can restore our civic balance and redeem us

Secondly, the rabble of moral relativ-ists which crouches, vulture-like, upon the body politic, denying that right can properly be distinguished from wrong, is a greater presence among Labour's supporters than elsewhere in the political spectrum. Here, new Labour has a fight on its hands if it is to provide a sense of direction in the wilderness which has been made of our lives by vacuous doctrines of "opportunity" and "choice". In most ethical matters there cannot, in practice, be "choice". But if even the bishops of the atrophying Church of England think there must be, Labour is unlikely to be braver.

Thirdly, the liberal mind draws back from most morally necessary acts which require the curtailment of individual freedom. Yet Karl Popper, the greatest exponent of modern liberal thought, was in despair at his life's end over the corruption of the liberal ideal, even declaring himself trenchantly in favour of the censorship of television.

Te have need of liberty," he said in 1988, "in order to prevent the abuse by the State of its power, and we have need of the State to prevent the abuse of liberty." But the tide of televisual and video violence continues to rise above our nostrils, applauded on its way by comfortable amoralists. Here the libertarian Right and Left occupy the same cul-de-sac, in which liberty is equated with unimpeded freedom of action. In consequence, both lose the right to criticise the anti-ethical behaviour of others. Free market fundamentalism violent sacrilege against nature, and even royal self-destructiveness are all expressions of the same suicidal "free spirit" and individual entitlement which the libertarian camp wrongly thinks are synonymous with freedom. In this camp, and it is a large one, is also the reat tride of Cyrics and Scotlers — many with access to the media - for whom any moral argument whatever is absurd, stiff-necked or "old-fashioned".

Fourthly, the most assiduous lobbyists in Labour's ranks continue to be more exercised about individual rights than individual duties. They are also generally unable to accept the concept of the "bad citizen", for fear of giving class offence. Connected with this is the disproportionate attention which they wish to see paid to minorities - and only to some minorities at that - rather than to the common civic good.

A Labour administration is going to have to break these spells if social peace and personal liberty are to be safeguarded. It is a puritan, or Roundhead, ethic which the nation needs, not soft toys left at the site of each act of violence while a helpless citizenry weeps.

or is such a puritan ethic compatible with a continuance of the fire sales of public institutions which hold the civic fabric together. Labour will have to put a stop to them and reverse those that can be reversed. It will have to be stern, too, in its encouragement and defence of the marriage bond.

In particular, civic obligation will have to be enforced, and the varieties of individual and civic irresponsibility will need to be better controlled by sanction. Labour will need to stand firm alike against duty-dodging parents, troublemaking tenants, work-avoiding claimants and the tax-evading rich, not so that illiberalism shall rule the land but so that the long, disastrous reign of dutiless right can be displaced by a social ethic.

It is also important that civic benefit becomes more closely linked to civic conduct, that the scope of personal responsibilities be extended in law and that community service be increasingly made a title of access to civic goods. For citizenship is a matter of duty as well as of right. If Labour were to enforce this, then the lost idea of the civic order might begin to revive.

It should be noted by "the Left" that this political agenda is "progressive", being in the interests of all; the peddling of an indiscriminate politics of rights and more rights - the politics of Charter 88 and other lobbies - benefits the few while imperilling the future.

For civic society requires above all to be protected, as the massacre of Dumblane shows: the "right" to carry a gun stands at the opposite pole to that of public interest. But so also do many other rights in societies which have lost their moral bearings, their respect for the other (and for nature) and the capacity to distinguish between the better and the worse. It is time, rather, for a generalised politics of civic and personal responsibility which is sustained by sanction, so that the moral order can be restored - and it looks as if it will fall to Labour to attempt it.

P·H·S | David Selbourne in Principle of Duty. David Selbourne is the author of The

No sweat

SOMETHING is afoot among Parliament's marathon runners. Most years, you can rely on eight or nine MPs pulling on their trainers for the London Marathon, to take place next month. This year, they are down to one.

Excuses range from slipped discs and sciatica to pressure of work. Sceptics say the party whips are terrified of any MP keeling over and forcing a by-election.

Robin Cook and Clare Short head the list of cop-outs. In January, they appeared outside the Houses of Parliament in their running togs, encouraging overfifties to run the marathon. Now Miss Short's office tells me the allsmoking. all-drinking Shadow Transport Secretary has been too busy to train. Cook's staff say their man never really planned to go the full 26 miles himself but, in true Labour fashion, was keen for others to do so.

Of the other regulars, Doug Henderson, Labour MP for Newcastle upon Tyne North, pleads a sports injury. Alistair Burt, Conservative MP for Bury North, has his eye on the New York Marathon instead. Jerry Hayes. Conservative MP for Harlow, has slipped a disc, while Gary

Waller. Conservative MP for Keighley, claims "a spot of back trouble after an operation and some ill-advised squash" has stymied his run. Alun Michael, Labour MP for Cardiff South, goes for the Short excuse of a heavy workload. Which leaves John "the carbo-loader" Austin-Walker, Labour MP for Woolwich. The marathon passes



Robin Cook and Clare Short among this year's non-starters

though he has not put in the requisite hours of street-pounding, he does expect to finish.

● In Buckinghamshire, a mad pub scare. The Red Cow in Wooburn Green, a 14th-century coaching inn, has changed its name to the Mad Cow. "No one knows why the pub is called the Red Cow," says Chris Ashton, the landlord, "so in 400 years' time folk will have no idea why it's the Mad Cow."

through his constituency and al-

Lost the plot

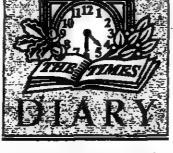
NEWS THAT the Ritz is trying to buy the house next door for expansion brings to mind the hotel's failed attempt early this century to snap up Wimborne House.

The hotel wrote to Lord Wimborne to ask if he wished to sell. "Not on your life," he replied. "But if the Ritz is interested in selling, I would like to extend my garden.

Spice is nice

MY STORIES of late-ight curry takeaways at Buckingham Palace and pie deliveries to Kensington Palace have encouraged a new fan of spicy food from the tandoor. Pamela Anderson, the bottle-

blonde so beloved of my tabloid



brethren, features large in the latest edition of Tandoori News. We are talking takeaway Hollywood style for the woman who developed a taste for tikka on visit to Britain last Christmas. "I don't know any decent curry places in LA, so I'll have to fly a curry chef over from the UK to make me my favourite chicken vindaloo."

Hurd-hearted

THERE will be poignant moments in Turin at the inter-governmental conference for Susanna Agnelli, the decorous 73-year-old Italian Foreign Minister. In her heart, she will be thinking of the days when Douglas Hurd was her British counterpart — she fell for his bookish charm and, frankly, Malcohn Rifkind does not have the same appeal. Susanna, a forceful figure who

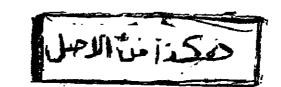
Young blade PRINCE EDWARD, always the



"In tomorrows field he stands a chance of winning

problem during her weekly chat with John Major the day before Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secremost modish of the Queen's broad, advised on modern trends on Wednesday night. With Sophie Rhys-Jones at his side, he was at tary, made his doom-laden anthe 5,000th performance of Starnouncement, the countrywoman light Express, the musical on rol-"She was consumed with conlerskates on which he worked five cern, and promptly offered to tele-phone round her blue-chip friends years ago for Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group. in Europe to see if they could

When it first opened it was a show of the pop music of the time and it has adapted and changed to keep up with the times, he ex-plained. "I think rollerblades would be a good idea now."





THE VIEW FROM TURIN

Italy's troubles have converted it to a more flexible EU

The official purpose of today's short summit in Turin is to launch the European Union's inter-governmental conference (IGC), which is supposed to review and improve upon the Maastricht treaty. The EU's leaders meet in a political vacuum; five out of six Europeans have never heard of this project, and fewer still see much point to further institutional tinkering. They will not be greatly enlight-ened by today's proceedings. They will be brief; to the irritation of the Germans and the disappointment of the anxious Italian hosts, they are unlikely to be to the point, John Major's main concern will be to be seen by his domestic audience to be reading the riot act about "unjustified" curbs on British beef; Jacques Chirac, who has his own domestic troubles, will be out to demonstrate to France's unemployed that the EU is - or ought to be - a vehicle for job creation.

T die

For all these reasons, there will be no serious debate at Turin about the Union's future. Yet it would be a mistake to see this meeting as inconsequential. Historical shifts are not always visible at the time; and the agenda for the IGC drawn up by Italy could open up routes to the more flexible, multidimensional EU for which Britain has long argued. That is not because Italy has lost its enthusiasm for Europe, but because - given that Italy will not meet the criteria for monetary union in 1999 - it is determined to resist Germany's concept of a European "inner core", from which it risks being

Accordingly, the Italians are converts to the view that, particularly in an enlarged EU, the willingness and ability of countries to harmonise their policies will not always coincide - and that each country should therefore be free to decide if, how and when to co-operate more closely in new domains of policy. This, Italian diplomats say, would allow early enlargement without putting a brake on countries that wanted to move towards "deeper integration".

Such talk will be music to Mr Major's ears. But it does not necessarily imply a minimalist agenda for the EU. If monetary union, Schengen and the Franco-German brigade are taken as precedents for "diversity", the argument could be used - as it probably will be by Germany - to put pressure on Britain not to block the development of common foreign, security and interior policies of which it did not want to be part. Britain may be winning the argument that the Union cannot advance at the same pace, or always in the same direction; but as this is more generally accepted, it will find it harder to resist the use of EU institutions for policies pursued only by small groups of countries.

Diversity could, in addition, easily become a repackaging of the "inner core" favoured Wolfgang Schäuble, the prominent German Christian Democrat. He gave a taste of that yesterday when he spoke of an EU avant garde. Here, however, Mr Major will not be in a minority of one; he will have Italian support for a multi-dimensional EU, in which small groups of countries form closer links in some areas, where this matches their national interest.

These negotiations will last for at least 15 months. Nothing is clear yet. But in the words of Boris Biancheri, the head of the Italian Foreign Office, Turin could be the moment when EU Governments start "to conceive a Europe that is different from the one we have been living with, in which diversity is preserved". Such a Europe could more easily accommodate the countries of Central Europe, which have no wish to forfeit sovereign freedoms only recently regained. Britain has cards to play and much at stake. If it plays them well, this multi-dimensional Europe could be one in which the British can feel more at ease than they have since 1991, when the Maastricht treaty was signed in a rush of federalist enthusiasm which this country could not, and cannot, share.

CHILDREN FIRST

Good sense on adoption — but it has been a long wait

In November 1993, Virginia Bottomley published a White Paper on adoption, which tried to bring some common sense back to a process that had, in some local authorities, been perverted by political correctness. The a paper stated the fact (hardly controversial, one might have thought) that the happiness intentions of the adoptive parents were more important considerations than the age. colour or weight of the couple concerned.

At the time, we welcomed her proposals, It then took two-and-a-half years for an Adoption Bill to be introduced. Published yesterday, it is a broadly technical piece of legislation designed primarily to streamline step-parent and overseas adoptions and to strengthen in some areas the birth mother's rights. As under the Children Act, courts will take all their decisions with the interests of the child as paramount.

What then about those important matters of age and skin colour? These are set out in a circular to all directors of social services from their chief inspector. A fine document it is. It argues that adoption should be seen as a positive step for some children, not as a last resort. It stresses that older prospective adoptive parents may have as much, or more, to offer as younger ones. It derides the inverted snobbery of some social workers who have turned down couples for being too well educated or too rich. And it argues that, where adoptive parents cannot be found who share the ethnic or religious origins of a child, other couples should be considered.

This is all highly sensible. In some societies, after all, grandparents do all the childrearing while parents go out to work; age is no necessary disqualification for bringing up children. More couples in Britain are having children naturally in their early forties, at an age which would disqualify them from adopting. Many couples do not discover until their late thirties that they are incapable of conceiving children: it piles that they are also too old to adopt.

Race and religion are trickier matters. The circular is right to conclude that, other things being equal, children should be placed with similar parents. But when other things are not equal, it must often be better for them to join a different-coloured family than to languish in a children's home or in foster care. What children need most is permanent love and affection - and local authority care, however well intentioned the carers, does not provide that.

The same is true of adoptions from overseas. Too many local authorities have insisted upon parents having connections with the country of origin before being allowed to adopt a foreign child. If the choice is between living in an orphanage or growing up in a loving British family, the latter is surely preferable.

Why has the Department of Health taken so long to say all this? The excuse was not that it needed to be incorporated into law, for none of these arguments is contained in the Adoption Bill. At last now, parents trying to adopt will be armed with the chief inspector's recommendations. But those who have been struggling with local authorities for the past few years will not thank the department for having taken so long to draft and send out seven sheets of A4 paper.

AYE, LINERS

The best voyages are journeys back in time

When Concorde brought the nations of the world, if not necessarily its British and French builders, so much closer to each other, the ascendancy of the aeroplane seemed assured. The Blue Riband became as obsolete a distinction as handiness with the plough when an aircraft could accomplish in hours what took a liner days. But the romance of the cruise, the salty tang on the lips, and not just from the briny, has ensured that sea travel survived. In order to compete with the convenience of the supersonic seat the cruise lines have had to innovate. Yet the modernity so eagerly embraced may crush the antique elegance which has allowed cruising to survive.

The Splendour of the Seas, whose launch today we preview on page six, may be making just that mistake. Her owners have abandoned the traditional and stately pleasures of cruising - quoits on the aft-deck then a hand at piquet, a gin and French before eight courses at the captain's table for every excrescence of our times: a "Greekstyle" solarium and aerobics floor, a "teen centre" designed to resemble "an MTV stage set", a "large writing wall for artistic free expression" and the "King and I Dining Room" with 20ft walls of glass. This ship is no Queen Mary, more an ocean-going

Duchess of York. Oddest of all, the Splendour of the Seas, or SOS as she might, more appropriately, be called, boasts an 18-hole golf course. The course, christened Splendour of the Greens, comes complete with trees, bunkers, heather and bronze golf gnomes. We have no objection to golf. Accountants have to have something to do at the weekends. And a sport at which either sex may excel and which suits the solitary or gregarious has obvious merits. But golf at sea is as unnatural as hunting in High Holborn. Moreover, putting past bronze gnomes while on a cruise liner is like drinking Lucozade in a distillery, or reading the Beano in the Bodleian: it is to forgo the sublime for the sake of the trivial. Building an 18-hole golf course on a liner

compels a certain admiration. The ingenuity of the naval architect can seldom have been so tested. But what a tragedy to see such skill channelled thus. One might as well have Henry Moore casting the bronze golf gnomes. How much better if the hands that fashioned the artificial heather around which the Maxflies must be steered had been set to bringing something of the Art Deco glory of the great Cunard liners to this

Turning cruise liners into Center Parcs at sea will only consign them to certain decline. When cruising, modern entertainments are an irritation, the port of call an irrelevance. The real voyage is back in time to a more spacious age where there was room enough to allow flirtations to flourish, hangovers to abate and honeymoons to, well, develop. The SOS's owners should hurl every iron into the ocean and recognise that, on a cruise, the only glimpse of green should be the olive in the lunchtime Martini.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Speaking up for law on blasphemy

From the Archbishop of York

Sir, in your report (March 26) of the challenge to the British law on blasphemy currently being presented in the European Court of Human Rights, Geoffrey Robertson, QC, is quoted as describing our present law as "anachronistic" and "discriminatory" against non-Christian faiths now practised in this country, and as saying that "blasphemy laws are the hallmark of primitive, not progressive, societies".

As it stands, our law on blasphemy is far from ideal. However, the fact that it has only been effectively in-voked twice in 70 years hardly suggests that it constitutes a significant curtailment of freedom of expression. What its place on the statute book fundamentally signifies and signals is a general presumption in our society that there are things which are sacred and which should be treated with proper respect, and that the feelings of religious believers about what they hold sacred should not be outraged.

To abolish the law without replacing it would amount to a repudiation of that presumption, signalling a fur-ther weakening of the spiritual dimension in our sense of national identity. Any such development would be deplored and apposed not only by Chrisfians but by many leaders and members of the non-Christian faiths in

There is a separate set of questions about whether the protection of the present blasphemy law should either be extended to other religious faiths or complemented by legislation relating to religious discrimination or incitement to religious hatred. These are important but also very complex issues. The Church of England remains keen to make a continuing positive contribution to the discussion

Yours sincerely, **†DAVID EBOR:** Bishopthorpe Palace, Bishopthorpe, York. March 38.

Queen in Poland

From Mr Barry Hyman

Sir, I am supprised that the Oueen, a woman of independent mind and vast experience, should need advisers to tell her that going to Poland without remembering three million Jewish Poles done to death by Nazism would be an affront to her own Jewish sub-

Visiting a memorial (report and leading article, March 26) rather than Auschwitz was a late, small and barely adequate gesture; within 24 hours it was effectively nullified by the crass omission of the one sentence in her next speech to deal with the subject (report, March 27). The Prince of Wales has gone on re-

cord as saving that he would like, as monarch, to be regarded as "Defender of Faith", implying all faiths. He has recently visited a Hindu temple and a mosque, fine gestures towards two minority faiths.

I worship at a Reform synagogue, where women enjoy equal rights, indeed our rabbi is a woman. If Prince Charles were to visit us. I could show him a community firm in its faith. while in complete dialogue with the modern world. That should appeal to his sense of spirituality.

Yours faithfully, BARRY HYMAN, 4 Priory View, Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire. March 27.

Active elderly

From Mr Richard Worsley Sir, it should come as no surprise to

the researchers for the Household Survey (report, March 27) that growing numbers of older people are ac-tive, independent and healthy. The importance of prolonging good health through an active mental and physical lifestyle and a balanced diet, and thus postponing dependence on others, has long been established, and people are clearly acting on it.

What we now need is a response from employers - by enabling those older people who want to work to make the contribution of which they are so clearly capable. The widespread exclusion of so many older people from work simply on grounds of age is an appalling waste of talent and experience and a missed opportunity for our society and economy.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD WORSLEY (Director). Carnegie Third Age Programme, 3 Robert Street, WC2. March 27.

Jobless data

From Mr James Bourlet

Sir, The Commons Employment Select Committee has concluded (report, Business, March 27) that the claimant count is an unsatisfactory measure of unemployment and that a monthly sample survey should be conducted to give a true picture of the labour

Precisely - and, as it happens, this is just what the 1944 White Paper on unemployment insisted was a prerequisite for success.

Your faithfylly. JAMES BOURLET (Honorary Secretary). Economic Research Council. 239 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2.

Danger of agricultural research cuts

From the President of the Institute of Biology

Sir, Public funding for agricultural research has suffered severe cutbacks in recent years and it would be irresponsible if we did not consider their implications. The present crisis surrounding the scientific evidence to underwrite the safety of beef for the consumer highlights the need to do so.

Research establishments, already forced to contract substantially and greatly reduce the numbers of highly trained staff, are now faced with another round of damaging cuts and a second government review within 12 months. Not only does this reveal government indecision: it also shows an obsession with uprnoting the tender plants of innovation in order to inspect the roots. It does little for the morale of our highly prized scientists, one of the great assets of our past successes and one which we squander at our peril.

New food and agricultural research programmes focus on how modern farming can be properly integrated into the wider environment. Bulging

for instance, and world grain reserves are only enough to last for 48 days; rising standards of living in China and other countries have led to massive demands for grain to feed livestock; population pressures demand better methods of land management, pollution control and waste recycling; and increased global warming could result in droughts in parts of the world used to regular rainfall. All the signs are that we are moving into an era where food scarcity will be a defining

food stores no longer exist in the EU.

It is certainly not the time to disperse our strengths in these areas of research. We welcome the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organisanion in Rome, who have recognised the potential dangers and called for a summit of world leaders in November to address the pressing issue of global food security for the next millennium.

Yours faithfully, F. ALAN HIBBERT, President, Institute of Biology, 20-22 Queensberry Place, SW7. March 28.

Structures for science

From Professor Sir Bernard Crossland, FRS, FEng

Sir, In a recent article, "Turning off the oxygen" (Education, March 8), the Principal of Umist expressed very real concern about the "process of attenua-tion — the so-called death by a thousand cuts" that is affecting the laboratories and workshops in most of our universities.

Though I recognise the great impor-tance of analytic science, it does not and cannot replace the need for well considered and up-to-date laboratory work and the technician staff to support it. Such facilities are also needed to support research and are essential to attract industrially supported re-

Industry is hardly likely to support research unless there are well founded laboratories and workshops, However, it has to be admitted that well very expensive, and they need to be utilised to the hilt. This leads to my long-held views

founded laboratories and workshops

and the associated technicians are

that it is necessary to condense down the number of universities with such facilities, to form a smaller number of technical universities, as are common on the Continent. For example, is it sensible or desirable that in Manchester there are four universities within a mile or two of one another, each with such facilities?

Would it not be much better if there was one major technical university, such as Aachen, which might also provide the stimulation for the industrial regeneration of the North West? A similar situation applies in many of our major cities.

Yours faithfully, BERNARD CROSSLAND. 16 Maione Court, Belfast. March 27.

Stemming BSE crisis

From Dr Helen Grant

Sir, On March 23, 1989, you printed a letter from myself and the late Professor William Blackwood warning of the possible hazard to their health citizens of the UK being exposed to the potentially infective brains of cattle. That letter and my other warnings in the media early in 1989 finally persuaded the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in November to bring in the "specified offals ban" to protect meat products from carrying the infective agent.

On May 27, 1994, you printed a letter in which I referred to the fact that a distinguished virologist, Dr Harash Narang, who had been working with this micro-organism (the scrapic agent) for many years, had devised a test capable of revealing which apparently healthy sheep were incubating scrapie. Since then his test has also been successful in two human CJD sufferers. MAFF has for several years repeatedly declined to make use of this test to identify cattle which incubate

We are now faced with the possibility of a disastrous and large-scale slaughter policy to restore confidence in British beef. Using the Narang test on all cattle would identify the infected ones so that only those would need to be destroyed. This simple, cheap and accurate test must be put to immediate use.

Yours faithfully, H. C. GRANT (Neuropathologist), 63 Mount Vernon Road, Liberton, Edinburgh 15. March 26.

From Mrs Janet Graham

Sir. Three cheers for Sir Simon Gourlay. In his letter to you today he advocates the setting up of a totally independent food and drug agency to handle all matters connected with food standards and food safety.

The National Consumer Council (of which I was then vice-chairman), along with other consumer organisations, made this recommendation to Government in 1989, in the wake of the original problem with BSE. BSE may be the most serious food

scare of recent years because it cannot be defined, but with modern food technology moving so fast there could well be others in the future. Consumers require independent advice at such a time and such an agency could well pre-empt some scares.

Yours faithfully, JANET GRAHAM, Wickenden Farm. Sharpthorne, Sussex. March 27.

From Sir John Boynton

Sir, As chief executive of the county council I was involved in the foot-andmouth epidemic in Cheshire in the 1960s when thousands of cattle were slaughtered. I am incredulous when responsible people talk lightheartedly of culling a few million cattle.

Dairy farmers know many of their cows by name. The destruction of whole herds in Cheshire was devastating. It affected life in the county at every turn. It wounded the spirit of the farming community as well as creating huge logistical problems.

Yours feithfully, JOHN BOYNTON, Ib Oakhill Avenue, NW3. March 27.

From Mrs C. M. Priestlev

Sir. Nigella Lawson today claims that we are all free to eat what we choose. Your illustration showing that Walker's beef and onion-flavour crisps contain no beef products at all says more about our lack of choice than even the shocking discovery of what lies hidden inside a ginger-nut biscuit.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTINE PRIESTLEY. 108a Cambridge Street, SW1. March 27.

From Mr C. Toby Stroh Sir, We now have a steakholder economy. Was Tony Blair prescient or dys-

Yours faithfully, C. TOBY STROH, East Lodge, Grove Lane, Orchard Leigh. Nr Chesham, Buckinghamshire. March 26.

University admissions

From the Secretary of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference

Sir. Your education correspondent treport, March 25) drew attention to the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (Ucas) plans to broaden the range of qualifications to be used as a passport to universities. Few will quarrel with an expectation that students should have achieved a high level of core skills before going on to university. Most will welcome the inclusion of information about the candidate's skills that goes beyond mere Alevel grades. The aim must be to select the student who is going to make the most of the university course.

The system must be fair to all applicants equally and, while full use should be made of information technology to introduce improvements, it must not be made so complex that it cannot be understood. The danger of a

clever but mechanistic scheme which produces a tariff to be used by admissions' tutors is that it may encourage them to place less reliance on the school report.

Whatever the improvements introduced by Ucas, they must not be seen as a substitute for the introduction of a system which leaves applications until after A-level results are known (post-qualification applications). Predicted A-level grades are a poor alter native to actual results as a basis for allocating university places.

Yours faithfully, V. S. ANTHONY, Secretary, HMC, 130 Regent Road, Leicester. March 25.

Business letters, page 29

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

RSPCA's role in animal welfare

From Mr Michael Sissons

Sir. My Country Life article on the RSPCA (report and leading article, March 28) was in the main concerned to show how the clothes of animal welfare have been stolen by activists for animal rights to gain effective control of the charity. No amount of banging on about "blood sports" on their part will now obscure that. I welcome the fact that the political activities of the RSPCA are now subject to close public

scrutiny. The sterile and Utopian precepts of animal rights and animal liberation are not compatible with the healthy survival of the British countryside. There is a task to redefine our relationship with the natural world for the 21st century. Country people, who care for animals rather than pontificate about them, used to belong to the RSPCA in very large numbers, I now urge them to rejoin, so that the debate about animal welfare may properly and openly be conducted within the world's leading animal welfare char-

In recent times the RSPCA has sought to stifle debate by refusing membership to those who do not support its policies, thus attempting to ensure that those policies cannot be changed. All who share the aims and objectives of the society, ie, animal welfare, are surely entitled to be part of this debate.

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL SISSONS, c/o The Countryside Movement, 11 Tufton Street, SWI. March 28.

Referendum on EMU

From Mr Adam Roxborough

Sir, R. D. Bloomfield (letter, March 20) makes the bold assertion that "nine out of ten" of those entitled to vote in a referendum on EMU would be intellectually "unable to grasp the ... arguments", would "vote for the wrong reasons" and "be swayed by TV plausibility, soundbites and oneliners".

It sounds like a general election to me. The fact is, it doesn't matter if my choice or anyone else's choice is ill-informed - what matters is the right to

Yours faithfully, ADAM ROXBOROUGH, 9 Ashwood Avenue, Didsbury, Manchester.

On the wrong track? From Mr Benedict Birnberg

Sir. One sympathises with the concern expressed by the Alpine Club at the proposal to build a funicular railway to the summit of Cairn Gorm (let-ter, March 27). In the circumstances, is it not compounding the felony to call on the Scottish Secretary to "set in train" a strategic analysis of development needs of the area?

Yours faithfully. BENEDICT BIRNBERG. 4 Eliot Place, Blackheath, SE3.

Ups and downs

From Mr Geoffrey Davies

Sir. Mr Philip Thomas, Chief Executive of Tandridge Council (letter. March 25), apparently believes that "if one council were to rise above the average, another would have to fall helow*

This shows a potentially alarming

misunderstanding of simple arithmetic: there is not necessarily a constant number of players above and below the average. Perhaps the residents of Tandridge need to re-examine their recent annual statements? More power to the Audit Commission, if it makes us realise that aver-

ages can always be improved, and that success only comes to those who try hardest. Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY DAVIES,

Walton-on-Thames, Surrey. March 25. From Mr John H. Deam

9 Hurley Close,

Sir, Mr Thomas need not be surprised at the Controller of the Audit Commission's comment that "it is not enough to be just average. Everyone can and should improve". It has long been known from the results of self-assessment that the standard of driving of more than 90 per cent of motorists in the UK is above average.

Yours sincerely. JOHN H. DEAM, 94 Northover Road. Westbury on Trym, Bristol, Avon. March 25.

Question time

From Mr Thomas Hamilton-Jones

Sir, I wonder whether I should prevent my six-year-old son George from watching Prime Minister's Question Time on television. Recently, on being bought a new toy, he asked his mother: "Are the missiles pre-packed; yes or no?"

Yours faithfully, THOMAS HAMILTON-JONES, 25 Lanercost Road, Tulse Hill, SW2. March 27.

COURT CIRCULAR

LIECHTENSTEIN PALACE PRACIUE

March 28: The Queen received Mr Vaciav Klaus (Prime Minister) this

Her Majesty received Mr Milan Unde (Speaker of the Parliament). The Queen subsequently flew to Brno and was received at the Airport by The President of the Czech Republic

Her Majety drove to Brno Town Hall and was received by Dr Dagmar Lastovecka (Lady Mayor).

The Queen met members of the Council and afterwards attended a Reception in the Knights Hall. Her Majesty this afternoon attended a Luncheon in Besedni

Dum, Brno. The Queen later visited the Constitutional Court and attended a Reception for the judiciary and members of the University, after which Her Majesty returned to

Prague.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evenling attended a Gala Concert, after which Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, accompanied by The President of the Czech Republic, gave a Reception of the Czech Republic, gave a Reception of the Czech Republic gave a Reception of the Czec tion at the Rudolfinum, Prague. His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's

Award, this morning presented International Youth Awards at The Duke of Edinburgh afterwards opened a Design and Technology Exhibition at Prague 2

His Royal Highness later visited Kuma Hora Town Hall, followed by a visit to St Barbara's Church. The Duke of Edinburgh after-wards viewed an exhibition and attended a Luncheon at the Castle. His Royal Highness later visited Kladruby Stud, watched a demonstration of Carriage Driving and attended a Reception.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 28: The Duke of York this morning left Heathrow Airport, London, for Washington DC, United States of America, to carry out a series of engagements in connection with the American Air Museum in Great Britain. Captain Neil Blair RN and Mr

ST JAMES'S PALACE March 28: The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Wildfowl Trusts, this morning visited the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Reserve at Cley on the North Norfolk Coast.

Geoffrey Crawford are in

KENSINGTON PALACE March 28: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present this evening at a Gala Performance by the English National Ballet at the London Coliseum.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint the Reverend Richard Bolton to be a Priest in Ordinary to Her Majesty.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as Colonel-in-Chief, will visit the Royal Logistic Corps Training Centre, The Prin-cess Royal Barracks, Blackdown. Camberley, at 10.30.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will attend the opera Roberto Devereur at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, at

Luncheons HM Government

Mr Jeremy Hanley, Minister of State for Foreign and Common-

wealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at Lan-caster House in honour of ASEAN

Royal Albert Hali The President and The Council of the Royal Albert Hall were the hosts at a luncheon yesterday in the Hall to mark the 125th Anniversary of its opening by Oueen Victoria.

Receptions

HM Government The Chancellor of the Excheques was the host at a reception given by her Mujesty's Government last night at Lancaster House to mark the creation of the Office for National Statistics and the appointment of Dr Tim Holt as

Chief Executive of the Office for National Statistics and Registrar General for England and Wales. **British Safety Council** Mr Matthew Carrington, MP. was

vesterday at the House of Commons for the British Safety Council Five Star safety awards.

Wigmore Hall International Song Competition

Mr William Lyne, Dr Ralph Kohn and Mr Graham Johnson were the hosts yesterday at a reception held at the Royal Society of Medicine to announce the inaugural Wigmore Hall International Song Com-petition which will take place in September 1997. It was also announced that the first Wigmore Hall Medal would be presented to Herr Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau. Patron of the Wigmore Hall International Song Connetition, at the Finals of the first Competition in recognition of his unique achievement in the world of music.

Requiem Mass Professor Alistair Crombie

Requiem Mass for Professor Alistair Crombie, a lecturer in History of Science, Oxford University, 1953-83, was celebrated by Father Peter Codd assisted by Canon Richard Ingledon and the Rev Professor Armogathe, of the Sorbonne, in the Chapel of Trinity College, Oxford, yesterday. Canon Trevor Williams, college chaplain, said the prayers of intercession. Mr Seamus Conway read the Epistle and Deacon Richard Budgen read the Gospel. Professor Robert Fox, Professor of History of Science, Oxford University, gave an address.

Bristol Society

The High Sheriff of Avon, Mr George Ferguson, the Lord Mayor of Bristol, the Bishop of Bristol and the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West of England were present at a Baroness Warnock, of Weeke at The Council House last night, Mr St John Harmell, Chairman of the Society, presided and Mr Gak Klappa, Chief Executive of SWEB, gave the vote of thanks, SWEB hosted a supper afterwards.

The Dragon Club

Mr Albert Reynolds, former Prime Minister of Ireland, was the speaker at the Dragon Club on Thursday, March 28. Mr John Bender, Chairman, and Mr Hardy Sohannal, Vice-Chairman, pre sided. Seventy members attended The next meeting will be with the Right Hon Ian Lang, MP, on April 22, 1996. The Dragon Club, 28 Old Brompton Road, London,

The night sky in April

By MICHAEL J. HENDRIE ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY is an evening star throughout the month, setting in the western sky as much as two hours after the Sun about the 23rd, when it reaches greatest eastern elongation (20 degrees). However, it is brighter at the start of the month at -1 magnitude, fading to 0 magnitude by the 23rd. This will be the most favourable evening apparition of Mercury in 1996.

While Mercury is never seen far from the horizon and in a really dark sky from the British Isles, at favourable apparitions such as this its brightness makes it a fairly easy object, given a clear sky. One can start to look about an hour after sunset, towards and above where the Sun set. The thin crescent Moon will

be to the south on the 19th. Venus reaches greates eastern elongation (46 degrees) on the 1st when the 4.5 magnitude planet will be a brilliant evening star in the northwestern sky, to the south of the Pleiades. It will move quickly eastwards through Taurus, passing north of Aldebaran in midmonth. The Moon will be to

the south on the 20th/21st. Mars rises only minutes before the Sun and will not be observable until July.

Jupiter is -22 magnitude and in Sagittarius rising by 01h late in the month. Moon to the north on the 10th/11th. Saturn is in Pisces but remains in bright morning twilight until June.

Uranus is in Capricornus throughout the year. rising by 01h by the 30th. Moon to the north on the 11th and 12th. Neptune is in Sagittarius

throughout the year, rising shortly before Uranus. It reaches a stationary point on the 29th. The Moon: full Moon. 4d

00h; last quarter, 11d 00h; new Moon, 17d 23h; first quarter, 25d 21h. Sunset on the 1st is at 18h

BIRTHS: John Tyler, 10th American President 1841-45, Charles City

County, Virginia, 1790; Edward George Stanley, 14th Earl of Derby, Prime Minister 1852, 1858-

59 and 1866-68, Knowsley Park,

Lancashire, 1799; Sir Edwin Lutyens, architect, London, 1869;

Sir William Walton, composer, Oldham, 1902; Edward Burra,

DEATHS: Thomas Corum, phil-

anthropist, London, 1751; Emman-uel Swedenborg, philosopher, London, 1772; Charles Wesley,

hymn writer, London, 1788; Maria

King George IV, Brighton, 1837;

financier. New York, 1848: John

Keble, theologian, Bournemouth,

1886; Georges Seurat, painter, Paris, 1891; Sir Charles Stanford,

composer, London, 1924; Margaret

McMillan, educationist, Harrow,

1931; J. Arthur Rank, 1st Baron

Rank, industrialist and film mag-

nate, 1972; Carl Orff, composer,

Henry VI's Lancastrian forces

defeated by Yorkists at Battle of

Towton securing the Crown of

The Albert Hall was opened by

Captain Robert Scott, storm-bound

in a tent near the South Pole, made

the last entry in his diary "... the end cannot be far ...", 1912.

The last American troops left

England for Edward IV, 1461.

Oueen Victoria, 1871.

Vietnam, 1973.

Munich, 1982.

painter, London, 1905.

Anniversaries

The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the justice of London at 23h (1 pm) at the beginning. 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a life amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words

35m and on the 30th at 19h 25m while sunrise is at 05h 35m and 04h 30m on the same dates. Astronomical Twilight ends at 20h 30m and 21h 55m early and late in the month and begins again at 03h 40m and 02h 00m.

The Lyrids meteor shower is active from about the 20th-24th with a maximum activity predicted for the night of the 21st/22nd. The radiant, from where the meteors appear to come, is marked on the April chart. Although not normally a very strong shower, with an hourly rate of 10 meteors, stronger displays occur at irregular intervals. With the Moon new on the 17th the

conditions are good this year. The partial solar eclipse on April 17-18 will be visible from New Zealand and parts of the Pacific Ocean and Anterctica. The total eclipse of the Moon on April 3-4 will be visible from the British Isles.

weather permitting, as well

Lord Tebbit, CH,

who is 65 today

Lord Justice Beldam, 71: Mr.

Henry Bellingham, MP, 41;

Mr Richard Rodney Bennett,

composer, 60: Professor

James Diggle, classicist, 52;

the Marquess of Hertford, 66:

Mr Peter Hinchdiffe. co-

founder. Iceland Frozen

Foods. 49: Miss Margaret

Howard, broadcaster, 58, Mr

Eric Idle, actor and comedian,

53: Mr Jack Jones, CH, trade

unionist, 83: Mrs Sheila Kitz-

inger, author, anthropologist

and childbirth educator, 67;

Sir Arthur Knight, former

chairman, Courtaulds, 79:

Miss Sylvia Law, town

Birthdays today

as much of the Americas Europe, western and central Asia, and Africa.

The Moon enters the um-

bra or inner dark shadow of the Earth at 22h 2lm on the evening of the 3rd: the curved shadow of the Earth will be seen encroaching on the Moon's disc. When the Moon is immersed in the Earth's shadow totality begins, at 23h 26m. Mid eclipse is at 0h 10m on the 4th and totality ends at Oh 53m. The Moon leaves the umbra at 1h 59m.

During a lunar eclipse the Moon may appear orange, copper-coloured, grey or so dark as to be almost invisible during the total phase. Cloudiness in the Earth's atmosphere is known to affect the

Moon's brightness. The weather during much of March has been unhelpful for those hoping to catch sight of cornet C/1996 B2 Hyakutake. But reports from the USA and Australia show

Jennifer Capristi, the

tennis player: 20 today

planner, 65: Mr John Major

Prime Minister, 53; Mr Hugh

Neili. Lord-Lieutenant of

South Yorkshire, 75: Sir John

Paul, former Governor-

General of The Bahamas, 80:

Sir John Read, former

chairman, TSB Group, 78;

Miss Fiona Reynolds,

director, Council for the Protection of Rural England,

38; Lord Ross, 69; Miss Anne

Stoddart, diplomat, 59; Sir

John Vane, pharmacologist,

69; the Very Rev James Weatherhead, former Moder-

ator of the Church of Scotland

General Assembly, 65.

the comet is up to predicted brightness and having the characteristic appearance of a bright comet. By the time this appears in print we may be seeing the brightest comet for many years. The comet should continue to be visible with the naked eye and binoculars as it approaches perihelion (its closest to the Sun at 34 million km) on May 2 1996, when it could be 0 to +1 magnitude.

During April its motion against the sky will slow as it moves away from the Earth. It will remain in Perseus passing near alpha Persei inear the letter S on the chart) to be near Algol on the 8th and moving slowly southwards towards the horizon during the rest of the month.

In April, Hyakutake will best be seen in the northwest as soon as it is dark enough when it will be at its greatest altitude above the horizon. It will remain in view above the northern horizon all night to be in the NNE at dawn. After about the 12th it will be visible only in the evening, though a tail might be seen, given a very dark sky, above the northern horizon after the

head of the comet has set. The Moon is full on the 4th but the sky will be darkened during the total eclipse. The Moon will then be rising later each night, by 22h on the 6th after which it should be little trouble. The comet's brightening as it approaches the Sun will be partly offset by rapidly increasing distance from the Earth and being nearer the horizon. The Moon will greatly interfere in the first three days of the month only.

Nautical twilight ends by 20h (21h BST) by the 4th and 20h 30m by the 20th, but the comet may be visible earlier. Present reports suggest Hyakutake will be a bright naked-eve comet with a welldeveloped tail. The eclipse and then moonless evenings make it ideal for observation if only the weather is clear.

of Chemistry

Fellows of The Royal Society of Chemistry in March 1996, They are entitled to use the designation Chartered Chemist and the letters CChem FRSC.

Swaminathan.

The second annual Douglas Bryant Lecture to be held on Tuesday, April 2, 1996, has had to be cancelled due to the withdrawal of the speaker, Dr James Billington. The British Library apologises for the short notice of this change, and regrets any inconvenience caused.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Brigadier Donald Harley Nott will be held at Worcester Cathedral on Saturday, April 27,

The Royal Society

The following were admitted as

JA Berry, J Boyle, D A Bryos, A C Cheyney, E Cropper, W P Edwards, M R Euerby, A Fernyhough, G V Garner, P S Gregory, K J Hale, A Harper, N K Howell, M Junius-Comer, S M Keily, A S Khan, I Koppel, K Kundu, A F Marchington, R W Millar, P Myers, P A O'Donnell, W H Rowbottom, P J Sarre, K Swamingshan.

The British Library

and Mrs Janet Owen also spoke. Archdescon of Chesterfield

Brigadier D.H. Nott

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.A. Allen and Miss P.A. Trevorrow The engagement is announced between Derek, younger son of the late Mr and Mrs H.F. Allen, and Penelope, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter L Treverrow, of Filkins, Gloucestershire.

Mr R.M. Axtell and Miss K.L. Brown

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mrs J.K. Axiell, of Hemel Hempstead. Hertfordshire, and Karen. younger daughter of Mr and Mrs G.E.M. Brown, of Barham. Suffolk, and Medan, Sumatra, Indonesia.

Mr R.A. Farrugia and Miss C. Bell

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Mr Armand Farrugia and Mrs Teresa Farrugia, of New Malden. Surrey, and Trini, daughter of Mr. Christopher Bell and Mrs Angela McAlpine, of Tarporley, Cheshire. Mr W.E. Grant. FRCS1. and Miss S.A. Knor

The engagement is announced between William, eldest son of Mr and Mrs W.J. Grant, of Clonskea. Dublin, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr Richard Knox, of Sandwich, Kent, and Mrs Charles Gray, of Forest Row, Sussex. Mr D.J. Grave-White and Miss S.M. Prince

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Grove-White, of Wormingford, Colchester, Essex, and Susan, daughter of Mr William Prince, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Mrs Maureen Prince, of Byfleet, Surrey.

Dinners

and Miss A. Janssens The engagement is announced between Yves, only son of Mr and Mrs Francis Le Boulenge, of Overijse, Belgium, and Alexandra. elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Edouard Janssens, of Overlise Reigium.

Viscount Samuel and Ms E. Black

The engagement is announced between Professor David Herbert Viscount Samuel, OBE, and Ms Eve Black.

Mr R.W. Tindall and Miss S. Nicholson

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs William Tindall, of Leeds, West Yorkshire, and Sophie, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael B. Nicholson, of Long Marston, York, North Yorkshire

Marriage

Mr W.J.A. Nash and Miss C.E. Moehrle The marriage took place quietly Paris. Virginia, USA, on Thursday, March 28, 1996, between Mr William Nash and Miss Catherine Moehrle.

Free Church Federal Council The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Carey attended a dinner held last night at the New Connaught Rooms to mark the retire-ment of the Rev David Staple as General Secretary of the Free Church Federal Council. Dr John Biggs, council chairman, and Canon Martin Reardon, General Secretary of Churches Together in England, were the speakers. The Dr John Newton presented Mr Staple with a cheque. Among others present were

Others present was a tree of the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, the President of the National Free Church Wooden's Council and My Caristopher Wooden, the General Secretary of the Council of Churches for British and Ireland and Mrs John Reamon, the Secretary-General of the General Symad at the Church of Linghant and Mrs Mawner, the Director General of the Council of Christians and Jews and Mrs Mendel, the Secretary of the Methodist Contingues and Mrs Beck, the General Secretaries of the Arto-West Indian Council of Churches, the Assemblies of God, the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Papitis Union of Wates, the Congregational Preferation, the Free Church of England, the Moravian Church in Great Britain, the New Testament Church of God, the Old Baptist Union, the Prestation Church of Cod, the Old Baptist Union, the Prestation Church of God, the Old Baptist Union, the Putters and Cod, the Old Baptist Union, the Putters and Cod, the Old Baptist Union, the Putters and Wates, the Union of Weish

Gardeners Company Mr D.E.F. Gollin, Master of the Gardeners' Company, assisted by Mr I.B. Flanagan, and Mr R.P. Franklin, Wardens, presided at the spring court dinner held last night evening the Master presented the company's prizes to students from the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, and Capel Manor. Sir Peter Hutchison, Chairman of the Porestry Commission, Lord Bridges

Church news

The Rev David Garnett, Team Rector, Ellesmere Port (Chester): to be Archdeacon of Chesterfield (Derby) in succession to the Ven Gerald Phizackerley, who retires on March 31. Architecon of Scandingvia

and Germany The Rev David Ratcliff, Chaplain of Christ the King, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany: also Archdeacon of Scandinavia and Germany

Latest wills

Sir Philip Courts Antrobus, 7th BL, of West Amesbury, Wiltshire, left estate valued at £3.232,672 net. Mr Michael John Dutfield, of

Ealing, London, W5, the television documentary producer, who made films in many of the world's trouble spots, left estate valued at £522,917 net. Mr William Howard Vincent

Levett, of Rye. East Sussex -"Hopper" Levett, the former Kent wicket-keeper - left estate valued at £590,874 net.

Kathleen Faith Rayner, of South Ewell, Surrey, left estate valued at £465,114 net.

Other estates include that, before ... ax):

Mr Albert Armitshead, of Woodthorpe, Nottingham-Mrs Jessie Evelina Balter, of Clarence Gate Gardens, London <u>5659.672</u> Mrs Elizabeth Burker, of Wilsden, West Yorkshire £822.575 Mrs Winifred Grace Maria Louth, Chatterton, Lincolnshire . £595.072 Mrs Olive Mary Crockett, of Shipton under Wychwood, OxfordshireE1,095,874

Mrs Isabella Gardner, Gosforth, Tyne and Wear £524,155 Mrs June Winifred Maud Hartwell, of Kingswood, Surrey £793.4**99** Mrs Marjorie Downing Hopley. Darlington. Durham E1,197,252

Florence Ethel Legge, of Kidderminister, Worcestershire, £723,794 Mr John Robert Henry Martin, of Oxted Surrey..... £650,431 Mr Philip Woodiwls Martin, of Mr Frederick Claude Parsons, Stourbridge,

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WS 1 : 10. 11 (REB) BIRTHS

OT - On Marcu 25th, so COOKE - On March 24th, 1 PREW - On 26th March, to Peter and Lies (nee

FAIRLOGEN - Dr. and Mrs Devil. a boundful exceptor Charlotte Victoria hero 20th Cherodic Victoria March 1996, a elster for Alumenter. Themio in all di Padrille Control. special intense to the surgeon. for a sensitive and safe

announce the arrival of Georgia Eleanor in Mathematic Ameralia on March 21st, granddsughter for Anne and David Gibson. HOLLINGWORTH - On March 20th at 61 Thurses Hospital, London, to Anno (née Pigot) and Laurence.

Namelia.

JEFFRIEL - On Nervit 1950s, to Care told Chedder) and Richard. the blessing of a daughter. Catherine Yvonne Hollie, sinter for Aust. WIDLICOTT - On March 25d, et & Heller Hossial. to Debte and William.

MORRESEY - On 27th March at The War Marcottel Hospital, Chipping Norton, to Sally-Ame (née Harris) and Makiny, a damphiter, Cityle March, a since for Rose and Hingo.

VEATS - SO OWN - Jesse at Disable are delighted announce the homecomic of their son Oliver Benjam on the son Office Sentimin who was born prematurely at 2nd January 1996 and stand the barried the staff of Treliske Hospital. Truto and St. Occurs Hospital. Tourng.

BAER - Peter, died on Priday
Tod March, will be marred
with a brief ceremony at
Harman Comment, fiveless
Lane, London N6, shortly
Lone Jum on Themby 2nd
April 1996. Friends
welcome

WECORDE - Bridget, late of Market Lavington, died Market Lavington, died paramité de Rybrouk House, Box. on 20th March, aged E. Whow of John Brooks and desty loved matter of Sarah, Andrew and the late Peter. No flowers please, Donations to Research Institute for the Care of the Edward, St. Marcha Inspection, St. Marcha

Alison Flona Kert, aged 57, very suddenly and riding accident. Much beloved daughter to Alison and sister to Lauren. Cremation at Southampton on Thursday 4th April 2 pm. All friends welcome. Thanksulving Service at taker date c/o 01962 844044. Family flowers only. Donations to Mark Davis Induced Riders Fund. Little Woolpit. Ewburst. nr. Cranicy. Surrey GUS 7MP. tion at Soc

aged 69. beloved wife of Simon and mother of and the late Rupert and much loved grandmother. Functal Service at All Saints Church, Highbrook, Sussex, on April 4th at 2.30 pm. Enquiries to Masters & Son, 201441, 400197

CALVERT - Dr. Hugh Telfer FRCP. On 26th March 1999 at Townlands Hospital Henley-on-Thames. Deared at Townlands Hospital.
Healey-on-Themes, Descret,
much loved and loving
hisband of Donts and loving
hisband of Donts and loving
hother is Jack and Murad,
deed, and Richard, Service at
St Andraws Church, Sonning
on Wedsedday 3rd April at
12.30 pm followed by
Private Cremation, Family
Flowers only. Donations if
wished to Royal National
histitute for the Deaf c/o
Tomatin & Son, Anderson
House, 38 Reading Road,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire 01491-873870.

COLE - Heather Vandervell
tole Franci on 25th Merch
after a long filmess bravely
borns March lower mother of
Rosemary and Ian and
grandmonter of Guy. Her
strength, character and
hamour with the march strength, character and humans with the methy missad by her framity and all who have her framity and all who human har. Financial to be held to Monday left April at St. Februs Rickley nr. Wromann, Kent at 11.15 am followed by Medicary Cremitation in Head of Rowers Cr. T.E. Heriock holden has the first the

DECORPTED - On March 27th 1996 ded pecchally at her home with her family in York Dr. Sheila. Private Randy arms will be held at York Crematorium. No flowers by permet places York Crematorium. No flowers by request please. Donations in lieu to the Marie Curie Cancer Association and the McMillan Nursing Foundation which may be forwarded via the Co-operative Fueral Service. Cromwell Road, York, YOI. 1DU. A Service of Tambaging in contration of her ma will be held at 51 Februs School Chape, York on Shapricy April 27th at 12.

HARVEY - Brigadier
"Roscou" aged 95, died
peacefully at home.
Thursday March 28th. A
much loved father.
grandfather and greatgrandfather. Private family
homes, hearters and to be
amorated later.

PERSONAL DEATHS

March 28th 1996 late of Darting Point - Sydney. Anstrain. Wife of Leon (dec'd.). sister of Nerida Goodman. mother and Trevor Staw. Judith and Jules Black. Alexa and Lawrance (dec'd.) Glibert. Candidler of Alexandra and Actiony. Carryina and Caudia. Nicholas and Dances. Feel-granimome of James and ann of Junetam and Paul.

HUGHES - On March 26th, suddenly at home, Idra C.P. Beloved humband of Nancy, Crammition at Chesterfield 11am on Wednesday April 3rd Thunks was Service at historic Parish Church at 2.30 pm same day. No flowers. Donations. If desired, to R.N.L.I. at the Church.

MERMAGEN - On March
26th 1996 in hospital after a
chort ilmess, Colonel John
Henkey Francis Metmagen,
Royal Artillery, aged 79
Justa March Invest instance
of the last March Invest instance
of the last March Invest instance
with the March Invest instance
with March Invest in the Church
Investor of Richard and
William. Fineral at Hatch
End Parish Church on
Immedia April 11th at Jun.
Family Rowers only.

BITCHPL - On March 200 1956, Describly is hoseful.
Lilly May "Mate" (née
Heastw), Micovel wife of
the late George Ceborne
Michael H.D. Descrip level
by her many relatives and
close friends. Themselves at 85
and (mercal service at 85). dos friends. Themselves and funeral service at St. Maryelesse Cromstorium on Thursday April 4th at S. Stein. Encursies. Lowers and Communication of Justin Ambulance. (551 Division) C/o Leverton & Sons Ltd., tel: (0171) 387-6075. **DEATHS**

MORREL. - Bathop Listed deeply loved brother of Curistine and the late Mary. Died peacevilly in this steep in his 89th year on Thursday 28th March 1996. Fungal Requiem 11.30 am Wednesday and April at 28 Michaelly Victoria Road. Brighton. Family Rowers any. Dominns if winned to St Michaelly Crunch and The Pines Nursing Home through Hanningtons F/D, 4/6 Manufacture Read, Howe, 1996. 1870. May be rest in peace.

works and the state of the stat

OMBY - Rex Stringer on March 27th in his 69th year. Hashand of Belly, Sahar of Elisabeth. Telepty and the late Judith Walton. The Paneral service will be held on Monday April 1st. 12 noon at \$1 Andrews Church. Gargrave. Family Rewers only please.

MIDOUT - On March 20th to Case, Praces, Alan National John aged 61, composer of march Linch level by family and friends Requies Mass at 37 Thomas of Canterbury, on Wednesday 10th April at 1.30 pm. followed by interment at Way Parish Cautch, Enguises to Earl & Cangeny, Ashford, (01235) 620522.

DEATHS

SHEEHAM - Dee perceivilly to 25th March in St Annia Hospice. Beloved will of Michael, devoted mother of Bophle and Jenes and deer sales. Planers in Cortel the King. Walinker on 2nd April at 3 ptn. Family Plowers only, donations in aid of St Annia to Mrs A Wall, 7 Kirty Avenus, Swinton, M27 OSP. TURNETALL - On 25th March

199%. Edith Gwendeline iged M year, Draw lovin mother. All enquiries to Ferrolds Funeral Service 31 High Street, Bogno Regis. West Sussex, PO2: 1FR. hat: (01245) 864745. WATRIM WILLIAMS - Str Peter of Enchant, Devel Died peacefully on 26th March 1996.

THANKSGIVING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS kinetick - Bill kinnock and his family wish to express their hamles to everyone who has sent messages or sympathy, and all those who have supported them in their recent bereavement.

BIRTHDAYS FLATSHARE

Whittl - Reut on 22md March 1996. Pulleral St March's, Repeate Park, Runel, Wil. April 2nd 10 mm. No Hawers, Donations to Venice in Perfl, Marky House, 314 Regent Street, Wi.

WILKINSON - Geoffrey Lincard MSE procedury on 26th March at Oakhurst Nursing Home. Romliey. Beloved husband of Joyce and scored father of Lesley. Cleavys. Alan and Emma. Davotad grandfather to Destroy and Hefenia. Jama and Tina. Alexai. Adren and Janette. Formerly of The Weish Guards and Her Majesty's Foreign Office. Weish Guards and Majesty's Foreign Office. Puneral on Monday 1st April

WYRDHAM GREEN - A Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate the life of Aian Wyndham Green will be held on Sunday April 21st at 3 pm in Ashford Parish Church, Ashford Vant

OCK - Bill Klimock and

maculiwe share, bully stagged, miligue furnishings. £300-100pw Tel:0171 289 2676 eve. CHENWICK I've dad run in meks, mod cons for clamper, 2290gem ex bills. and f prof n/s. E Goodfard 0171 g296171 CLAPHAM 4th gtrl. o/r. Bright fast, geb. all mod cons. 6255gem. Teks0181 678 7024. LATMATES Landon's foren (Est 1970) Professional Marting service. 0171-889 5401

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(Cucioo), on 23rd March at Hosteration of Muring Home. Backill, died peacefully in jer 57th year. Crematon at Hastings on 3rd April 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if district, in The National Trust. Enquiries peaced 5 proceed Service, let: (01424) 222225.

OXBY - Rex Stringer of

LUX SWF1 Let IL Form grad. Hug-lest room. Cleanor, Odna, ber tis. £99 inc. 630 £237. *ARSONS GREEN Dut rm in he has, no tube, all mod came, £110 pw. 0171 287 1429/ 781 0060

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES SALE

Legal news The Honourable Mr Justice Waterhouse and the Honourable Mr Justice Macoberson of Cluny will retire from their posts as judges of the High Court (Queen's Bench Division) on

He left £10,000 each to Kent County Cricker Clob and the RSPCA.

Dr Graham Ringer Faber, of Folkestone, Kent, left estate valued at £6,702,669 net.

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OBITUARIES

Shin Kanemaru, Deputy Prime Minister of Japan, 1986-87, died yesterday aged 81. He was born on September 17, 1914.

SHIN KANEMARU was usually described by the Japanese press as the country's "godfather" or "kingmaker". While he never became Prime Minister himself — the highest office he ever occupied was that of Deputy Prime Minister from 1986 to 1987 — Kanemaru could take credit for having hired and fired at least four Japanese Prime Ministers. His failure to achieve the top position in no sense defines the real measure of his influence. In a society in which political power and financial clout are intimately related, the unscrupulously wealthy and well-connected Kanemaru was able to occupy the real driving scat in Japanese politics for many years.

His career was cut dramatically short in late 1992, when he was implicated in the latest of a long string of corruption scandals. The Japanese had long been used to the idea of politicians taking bribes and sweeteners but, even to their pragmatic sensibilities, the scope of Kanemaru's clandestine operations appeared breathtakingly audacious, particularly at a time when most ordinary citizens were struggling to cope with a recession. A team of investigators, sinking under the weight of strong-boxes containing gold bars, were shown on television, staggering away from Kanemaru's house, kanemaru re-mained inside under a sort of selfimposed house arrest.

Harriage.

Test news

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The political fallout from Kanemaru's exercise in creative accountancy had far-reaching conse-quences. It effectively broke the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's 30-yearlong stranglehold on Japanese politics, and paved the way for a coalition Government.

Kanemaru was feared rather than loved in his party. He was a large man, with a gruff, monosyllabic manner, a spikey crewcut hairstyle, and the baggy eyes of one who had attended too many late-night meetings. Those who knew him personally regarded his second wife Etsuko as the private impetus behind his political career. She was a vivacious, outspoken woman and, though she had no public role herself, she guided her husband through much of his decision-making.

Kanemaru had come to politics as a

40-year-old man after the war. His

SHIN KANEMARU



played a pivotal role in preserving and

strengthening the dango system (the system whereby only favoured com-

panies are allowed to bid for big public

contracts), and he was thought to have profited enormously from these public works projects. Thereafter he was head

of the construction zoku - that group

of politicians who represent the con-

struction industry's interests in

In contrast to the enormous power

he wielded behind the scenes Kanemaru's official career never

amounted to much on paper. He was Deputy Prime Minister from 1986 to 1987 and Vice-President of the LDP in

1992. But for most of his tenure, he was

and skilful juggler of the various factions of the LDP. His personal ties

to Opposition leaders meant that he could ease difficult Bills through

Parliament, while he retained the trust

of those in the construction industry

who oiled the governmental wheels

Although much of what he achieved

will - by its covert nature - remain

obscure, it is extremely doubtful whether any of the Prime Ministers of

with large injections of cash.

His real talents lay as a negotiator,

simply a lower house legislator.

parliament.

origins were relatively humble: like Noboru Takeshita, his friend and later Prime Minister of Japan, he was the son of a sake brewer. His early career and war record he preferred to keep

shrouded in obscurity.
In 1955 he was elected to the Diet, the lower house, for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, and represented a constituency in Yamanishi prefecture, being re-elected six times. The LDP was then, as it is now, not so much a unified party as a collection of often antagonistic factions - all of which chose to be elected under the banner of the LDP for convenience. The faction which Kanemaru went on to head became the most powerful in the 1980s, and the largest with more than 100

As a young politician, Kanemaru was taken under the wing of that architect of postwar Japanese politics, genius of the market system and Prime Minister, Kakuei Tanaka. At the same time, he formed a bond with Takeshita, and their alliance was further cemented when two of their children married.

By 1972, after serving time on numerous committees, Kanemaru was rewarded with the post of Minister of Construction for a year. Here he the 1980s — Yasuhiro Nakasone (1982-87); Kanemaru's friend Takeshita (1987-89); Sosuke Uno (1989); Toshiki Kaifu (1989-91) — could have attained the premiership without his support. The last, most blatant example of Kanemaru's influence came in 1991, when he decided to drop the popular Kaifu in favour of Kiichi Miyazawa. Even though Kaifu was riding high in the opinion polls, he had no option but to step down for Miyazawa. By this time, however, Kanemaru's star was already beginning to fade.

First, there was a damaging incident in 1990 when he sought to carve out a more active international diplomatic role for himself by visiting North Korea. Kanemaru met Kim II Sung, and promised the North Korean Government substantial funding. This irritated not only the South Koreans. but the Japanese Government - who had no intention of paying such an amount. It made Kanemaru particularly unpopular with the far Right, and

larly unpopular with the far Right, and in 1992 he narrowly avoided an assassination attempt by a right-wing gunman at a political rally.

So far Kanemaru had avoided direct implication in any of the large corruption scandals which had rocked Japan since the war — for instance, the Recruit scandal of 1999. But in September 1992 the tax authorites crush ber 1992 the tax authorities struck. Investigations into Kanemaru's finances revealed a huge, undeclared cache of bonds, apparently bought with money siphoned off from political donations. Kanemaru responded with what he trusted was a sufficiently repentant statement, bolted his front door and politely refused to submit himself to further questioning. A posse of reporters camped outside his house for a month.

Despite the high temperature of public opinion — "No one is above the law" ran the headlines — Kanemaru was now an old man, and his failing health meant that he never stood trial for these offences. Most ordinary Japanese people were incensed by the failure of the system to punish him, or to mete out what was little more, in

effect, than a slap on the wrist.
But the scandal did, if nothing else, effectively end his career. He resigned in October 1992, and spent his last years with his family, out of the public eye, in increasingly bad health and confined to a wheelchair.

His first wife predeceased him, and his second wife died in 1991. He is survived by his three sons.

year in which to prepare for

the chairmanship, he was suddenly pitchforked into of-fice in March 1993 when his

predecessor resigned. He chaired the council with great skill, defusing tensions with

His accession to the chair-

manship completed a remark-

able double for the Grove

Health Centre, which became

one of only two general prac-tices in Britain to produce both

a chairman of council and a

president of the college. He

thus continued a remarkable

partnership with his former

trainer, Dr Stuart Carne, who

tact and wit.

SIMON NOWELL-SMITH

thors, including Robert Bridges and Henry James, of both of whom he put together

unrepeatable fine collections,

and he had a taste for lesser figures such as T. E. Brown

and Hawker of Morwenstow,

Latterly he devoted himself to

English poetry in the period

from "Wordsworth to Robert

Graves and Beyond" (the title

of an exhibition of a selection from his library mounted at

The Bridges and James

collections, latterly too nearly

complete to afford any contin-

uing pleasure of the chase, were disposed of to institu-

tions over the years, and his

attention was concentrated on

19th-century poetry, a collec-

tion which became increasing-

ly refined by its collector's

bibliographical skill and liter-

ary taste. Like Michael Sadleir, who

was one of his early mentors,

Nowell-Smith put his books to

literary use. Among his writ-

ings was The Legend of the

Master (1947), an ingenious compilation in which he "at-

tempted to show Henry James

the man as others saw him,

and as far as possible in

others' words". It is more than a biographical entertainment,

and its lightness of touch

disguises the scholarship that underlies the selection. He was learned in the history of

publishing, and wrote on the firms of Cassell and Macmil-

MARGARET HOMFRAY

the Bodleian in 1983).

Secretary and Librarian of the London Library. 1950-56, died yesterday aged 87. He was born on January 5, 1909.

SIMON NOWELL-SMITH was a learned bibliographer and book collector who assembled a distinguished library of 19th-century English literature, and who, after a journalistic apprenticehip. served as Librarian of the London Library. Nowell-Smith's father, Nowell Charles Smith, him-

self a literary scholar, was at the time of his elder son's birth Headmaster of Sherborne School, where Simon Harcourt Nowell Smith - he later hyphenated his name - was nypheriated his name — was educated before going up to New College, Oxford. He joined the staff of *The Times* in 1932 and was assistant editor of The Times Literary Supplement from 1937. During the Second World War he served in the Intelligence Division of the Naval Staff working alongside his old friend William Plomer (whose posthumously-published autobiography he edited).

In 1950, at the urging of Sir Harold Nicolson and others who felt the need for an outside appointment, he be-came Secretary and Librarian of the London Library. He was librarian for only six years, but they were important ones in reviving it administratively after a stressful wartime period, and in renewing its sense of scholarly commitment. He resigned on amicable terms in 1956, content (and able) to be a private scholar thereafter.

From his undergraduate days Nowell-Smith had shown himself to be a skilled book collector, with an early interest in the works of his uncle by marriage, Mark Rutherford. His Blackwell's bill was his principal university debt, and Basil Blackwell's indulgence was amply rewarded over the years. His interests gradually

concentrated on specific au-

historical study of Interna-tional Copyright Law and the Publisher (1968), based on his Lyell lectures at Oxford, in which an important but highly technical subject is dealt with elegantly.

Nowell-Smith was wont to

insist - sometimes quite testily - that he was only an amateur, but he brought to his favourite studies more knowledge of books as objects than is common among the literary fraternity, and a far wider knowledge and deeper sympathy for literature than is generally found among bibliographical scholars, it was regrettable that he did not feel himself able to finish a projected Clarendon edition of Martin Chuzzlewit, but the materials he gathered were placed in hands that saw the

task properly completed.

He was equipped with a precision of mind and written expression that were, if anything, emphasised by many years of professional review-ing. Exactitude could some-times show itself captiously but to a number of young scholars, who had eventually been found by him to have won their spurs, he was a sympathetic patron; he was also a generous benefactor to a number of charitable causes.

As well as holding the Lyell Readership ar Oxford in 1965-66, he was president of the Bibliographical Society, 1962-64, and of the Oxford Bibliographical Society, 1972-76. He was for many years a trustee of Dove Cottage, the Words-worth library and museum; he was also a member of the Roxburghe Club and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He was elected a member of the Order of St John of Jerusalem in recognition of his work as secretary of the Hospital Libraries Survey, 1958-59. He married, first, in 1938 Marion Crichton who died in

1977. He then married Judith Adams in 1986. He is survived by his second wife and the two sons and a daughter of his first

DR WILLIAM STYLES

Dr William Styles, OBE, general practitioner, died from cancer on March 8 aged 55. He was born on March 22, 1940.

BILL STYLES was one of general practice's leading educationists, specialising in the postgraduate arena. Elected to the Council of the Royal College of Practitioners in 1982, he subsequently became honorary secretary of both the council and of its joint committee on postgraduate training. These two posts, held simultaneously, put him at the forefront of the educational process for general practice. William McNeil Styles was educated at Dunfermline High School and St Catharine's College, Cambridge, where he gained a first in the Natural Science Tripos and won a rugby Blue. He went on

to St Mary's Hospital Medical

School, London, where he was

awarded the Harmsworth

scholarship, graduating in

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Stuart Carne and so began a lifelong association between them. The professional turn-ing point in Styles's career came when he was elected to the Council of the Royal College of General His main professional inter-

est and skills lay in education for general practice. His work attracted wide recognition and a variety of prizes, including in 1989 the highest honour of the Royal College of General Practitioners, the Foundation Council award. He delivered the 1990 William Pickles lecture, "And now what?" He became chairman of

education for the college and under his leadership much was achieved, notably publication of an Educational Strategy and a series of state ments made jointly by the RCGP with sister specialist colleges outlining the educa-tion to be expected for doctors in junior hospital posts.



His standing was now so high that he was unopposed when he stood for the deputy Although he had expected a

FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY

chairmanship of the college and became chairman-elect.

FLIGHT3

DIRECTORY

Margaret Homiray, Montenori teacher trainer, died on March 3 aged 87. She was born on April 6, 1908.

DETERMINED in the face of opposition, but gently patient in character, Margaret responsible for re-establishing Montessori education in Britain after its dispersal during the Second World War. There are now about 2,000 Montessori schools in the UK alone, and their students have in turn started up thousands more all over the world.

served as president while they The aim of Montessori eduwere still partners together. In his first 12 months as cation is to promote world peace by teaching children how to live in amicable cochairman Styles suffered a grievous blow when when he operation from the age of two developed a metastasis from or three. A carefully struccancer of the colon. He bore tured environment is created the repeated and complicated wherein freedom of choice is therapies with courage and without complaint. He conpossible because all the activities provided are designed to centrated on writing a major match developmental statement on education in demands. Margaret Homfray was

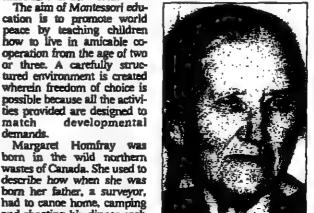
general practice. This was published by the college as Education and Training Genwastes of Canada. She used to eral Practice, Policy State-ment 3 in 1994. He was describe how when she was born her father, a surveyor, appointed OBE last year. had to cance home, camping Styles chaired his last counand shooting his dinner each cil meeting in June 1995 and did not seek re-election as day, as he travelled to see his newest child. In 1914 her chairman in November. His mother, with six children and chairman's address was read expecting her seventh, reby his vice-chairman at the turned to England. But while college's annual general meetshe was on the ship home, the ing and he arranged to have a First World War was declared, large-screen video shown in which he took his leave of the and Margaret was never to see her father again. He died of poeumonia shortly after-

Bill Styles was an honorary medical officer to Queens Park Margaret Homfray was Rangers Rootball Club for many years, and his hobbies included photography, read-ing and riding. His wife Jill educated at Basingstoke High School. It was there that she first heard of Maria Montessori - presented to her then as a dreadful woman who did not ives him, together with their three daughters and a believe in punishing children. Later, as a teenager, Homfray

Washington, March 26

visited a cousin in London who invited her to hear Dr Montessori speak. She was captivated and in 1930, at the age of 22, went to Rome to attend one of Montessori's training courses. Mussolini was for a short time in favour of the educator who was making Italy famous throughout the world, and Montessori students were invited to meet him. Margaret Homfray was later reprimanded by relatives for shaking his hand.

Later in the 1930s Homfray was sent by the Foreign Office to Berlin to help to establish a



less rigid system of education. The children there, she said, were punished so severely for disobedience they learnt to obey any orders rather than think for themselves. Their spirits were broken, and that, she surmised, was one of the reasons why Hitler had his way in Germany. He commanded a whole country of obedient people.

The Second World War saw the dispersal of several hundred British Montessori schools as buildings were put to new uses. But in 1946, Homfray invited Maria Mon-

tessori, recently returned to Europe from India where she had spent the war years, to give a teacher training course in London. Shortly after-wards, Homfray teamed up with Phoebe Child, a friend with whom she had studied, and together they decided to Montessori training, Pooling their scant resources, they raised enough for a deposit and, though at that time single women were not allowed mortgages unless they had a male guarantor. Homfray managed to win round the loan officer and get what she wanted.

In 1946 a combined Montessori school and teacher training college, later to become St Nicholas Montessori (at one time the world's largest Mon-tessori training college) was opened. She and Phoebe Child acted as joint principals.

One of her most important contributions to Montessori education was the correspondence course. This was begun when a Canadian mother with a Down's syndrome child wrote to Homfray for help. For four years they kept up a correspondence, Homfray always ready with new ideas, instruction and advice. Despite the disapproval of more conventional colleagues the correspondence course flourished, although it was not until the Open University made distance learning respectable that opposition subsided.

Margaret Homfray retired in 1978. Within the year Phoebe Child had had a stroke and for the rest of her life required constant care. Homfray saw this new responsibility as a privilege and cared for her until her death ten years later. Margaret Homfray never married.

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COMBAT STRESS

LAST-DITCH STRUGGLE OF THE KU-KLUX-KLAN From Our Own Corresponden

membership.

Washington, March 28
The Ku-Klur-Klan, upon which President Johnson has declared war, is no longer the powerful, monolithic group of the 1920s, whose membership ran in the millions and whose political influence in the south was total. There are now a number of splinter organizations competing for legitimacy, of which the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku-Klur-Klan, is believed to be the largest. The Imperial Wizard of this organization is Mr. Robert Shelton, a former tyre salesman, and its headquarters is at Tuscaloosa, Alabama ...

When I stiended a meeting addressed by Mr. Shelton in the summer of 1963 at the time

Mr. Shelton in the summer of 1963 at the time that the University of Alabama was being desegregated, the Klan was a weary, dreary and ineffective organization that was appealand intercent of granted of law and order. However, there have been persistent reports since then that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 had galvanted the membership for one last-ditch struggle and the centire Klam is under investigation by the Federal Boretsu of investigation by the Federal Bureau of nation, which declined today to give any

ON THIS DAY

March 29, 1965

At its peak in the mid-Twenties the Klan had an estimated four million members. By 1930 it had shrunk to fewer than 30,000. ('Ku-Klux' is derived from the Greek "kuklos" — a "drinking vessel".)

details of its findings so far. The Anti-Defamation League of Bnai Brith, the Jewish organization, estimates that there are now about a dozen major Klans with a total membership of between 48,000 and 65,000. Mr. Shelton claims that the latter figure is closer to the membership of his organization alone. The relatively mild image which he projects is in strict contrast to the more flery Knights of the Ku-Khx-Klan, sometimes known as the North Florida Klan, led by Mr. Gene Fallow, of Jacksonville, Florida, or the Realm of the Invisible Empire, which grew up against in Mississippi at the end of 1963

... These various splinter groups, of which there are now so many that practically every member is an officer, are all descended more or less directly from the Ku-Klur-Klan founded on Stone Mountain, near Atlanta, Georgia, in 1915. The moving spirit was Colonel William J. Simmons, a preacher and promoter of fraternal orders, who described his creation as a high-class, mystic, social and patriotic society devoted to the protection of white womanhood and the supremacy of white Protestants. This was a considerable elaboration of the original Ku-Klux-Klan, founded by six Confederate veterans in Pulaski, Tennessee, on Christmas Eve. 1865, as a social club... For a while the original Klan had a Halloween spirit about it, but when it was realized that it could be used to terrify superstitious freed slaves it took on a more sinister role. In 1869 it had become a haven for such disreputable characters that the Grand Wizard, General Nathan Bedford Forrest, dissolved it. General Forrest's Klan had confined itself, even at the worst, to murder and kidnapping aimed at Negroes and carpet-baggers, persons sent down from the north. Colonel Simmons, in 1915, added Roman Catholics, Jews, foreigners and organized labour to the list of enemies and for a while it flourished so much its membership was five million ...

Michael Th

flood of foreign en-voys is expected in last divided capital, as the international community attempts once more this summer to untie the Gordian knot that is the Cyprus problem. New elements have emerged that have convinced many there may be an oppor-tunity to end the island's cold war that has bogged down the United Nations peacekeepers for more than three decades.

The most important is Cyprus's looming accession to the European Union, which could take place as early as 2000. It has focused minds in Brussels, which dreads the possibility of admitting a divided country. A European Union diplomat in Nicosia says: "By 2000 we must at least have progress towards a settlement."

Relations between Europe and Turkey, which has 32,000 troops occupying northern Cyprus, were clarified by last December's customs union agreement, and the Turkish Cypriots need a solution.

The economy of their tiny twilight state, recognised by no government except the one in Ankara, is in dire straits. And, after months of being rudderless, both Greece and Turkey have new Govern-ments. The United States has also declared 1996 the year of the "big push on Cyprus". The island's division is one

of the main bones of contention between Greece and Turkey, whose feuding undermines Nato's important southeastern flank. Both countries have troops in Cyprus. As well as Turkey's 32,000 mainland troops, there is a 3.500 strong Turkish Cypriot force, and in the south there is the 10,000-strong Greek Cypriot Nat-ional Guard, reinforced by about 1,800 mainland Greek officers and NCOs.

The American push was due to start in February with high-profile shuttle diplomacy between Athens, Ankara and Nicosia by Richard Hol-brooke, the Assistant Secretary of State who brokered the Bosnian peace accords. He was diverted, however, by a



Military checkpoint in Nicosia, flashpoint of the right-wing coup of summer 1974

near Greco-Turkish war in the Aegean in January over the tiny uninhabited island known as Imia to the Greeks and Kardak to the Turks. Last month, Mr Holbrooke left the State Department to return to Wall Street. This caused little concern in Cyprus. After de-cades of failed initiatives, few Cypriots any longer believe in miracle men

President Clinton, the cynics argue, is going through the motions to placate the noisy Greek lobby in a US election year and will do nothing to upset Turkey, America's re-gional watchdog. But Washington's renewed interest seems to have galvanised European resolve. A senior UN official in Nicosia says: "After the Dayton conference [where the Bosnian deal was finalised), the Europeans were concerned that another opportunity to solve an essentially

European problem was slip-

ping out of their hands."
In January, EU foreign ministers chose their own Cyprus troubleshooter, Federico Di Roberto, Italy's former Ambassador to Moscow. A luli is likely while Greek Cypriots prepare for May parliamen-tary elections. Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, will not receive visitors for two months while he recovers

from a heart attack. American and European officials emphasise that they will not come bearing separate peace plans but will give extra muscle to well-known United Nations initiatives. Cyprus has been effectively divided on Orthodox Greek Cypriot and Muslim Turkish Cypriot lines since the summer of 1974. The colonels then ruling Athens backed a right-wing coup in Nicosia staged against President Makarios on July 15. Among its leaders were men

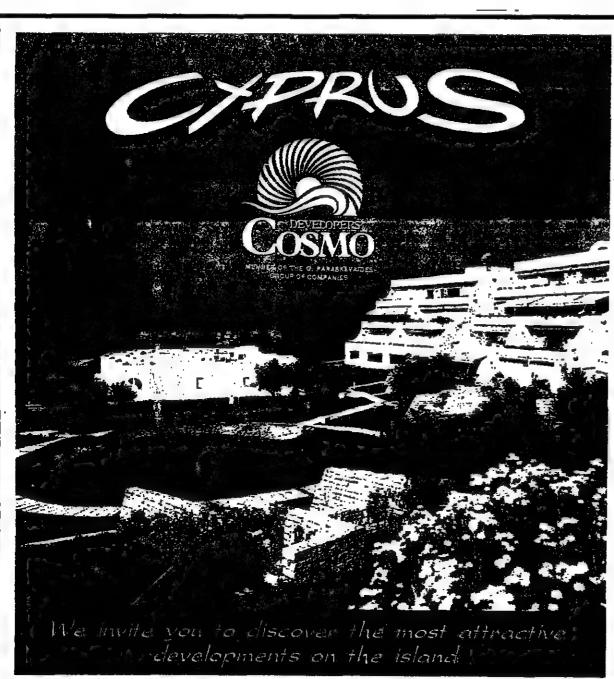
known to be fanatically anti-

Turkish. Turkey, as one of the guarantors of the island's independence, cited treaty rights and intervened five days later by landing paratroopers and insisting that its action was to protect the Turkish Cypriot minority, which had often suffered from the violent excesses of right-wing Greek nationalists.

coup collapsed, as did the Athens military junta. But the Turkish troops stayed, turning their supposed intervention into an invasion that vention into an invasion that was condemned internationally. Eventually they controlled 37 per cent of the island. Fearing for their safety, 180,000 Greek Cypriots fled from northern Cyprus and 45,000 Turkish Cypriots abandoned their homes in the south. It left the Turkish Cypriots, about one in five of

Figure 1

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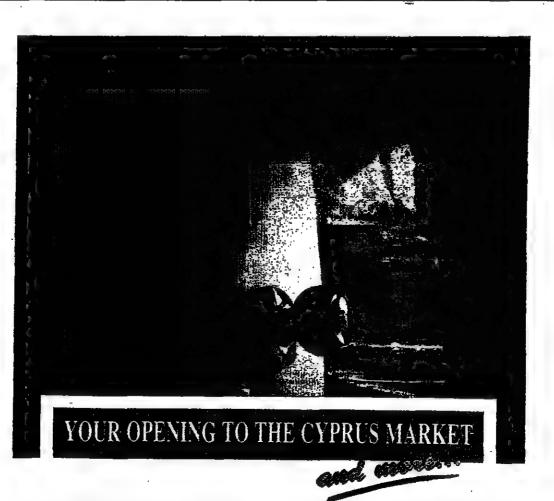
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Michael Theodoulou outlines moves that may resolve long-standing disagreements between the two nationalities of a divided country

Gordian knot



Like so many Cypriot villages, Omodhos has changed little since the time of Homer

one-sided sympathy. David Dain, the British High Commissioner, was recently pictured in a Greek Cypriot daily newspaper sporting a sketched-in fez after the Foreign Office was deemed to have made a pro-Turkish

Mr Denktas has often been seen as the intransigent party. but UN officials now sense a new realism in his outlook. It has become clear that his selfstyled republic, declared unilaterally 13 years ago, will not win recognition and is paying the terrible economic conse-

The EU diplomat in Nicosia says: "Behind the scenes, the two sides have grown closer on issues such as security, EU membership and sovereignty. and in private are showing more flexibility, which we hope can be translated into

sovereignty, territory, security guarantees and the return of have to be made by both sides refugees have bedevilled negowhich means, as one UN offic-Both sides, meanwhile, appeal to the outside world for

hurch bells peal, lamb sizzles on courtyard grills and old men in baggy trousers play backgammon in the coffee shops. To the delight of the tourists who have enriched the island, Greek Cypriot villages on a Sunday morning have not changed much since Homer's time - that is, if you ignore the gleaming Mercedes-Benz alongside the donkey in the tumbledown barns. The car probably belongs to

a successful British-trained accountant or lawyer spending the weekend in his home village to see his farming parents. First thing Monday morning he will be back in his air-conditioned office in Nicosia or Limassol helping to establish an offshore company for a client from London, Moscow or Hong Kong.

In a generation, Cyprus has been transformed from a sleepy, colonial backwater dependent on agriculture into a bustling tourist destination and burgeoning regional fi-nancial centre that is giving Dubai and Bahrain a run for their money.
Today the business com-

munity in Cyprus will celebrate the opening of the island's first stock exchange, which has been operating unofficially since 1979. About 40 companies with 90 titles will be listed. Now Cyprus is banging at the European Union's door for entry. It

Backwater bustles into business

entered the first phase of a customs union in 1987 and hones for full membership by 2000. Cypriot officials are confident their flourishing economy already meets the Maastricht treaty's criteria for economic convergence.

Last year especially saw impressive performance. There was 5.5 per cent real growth in the gross domestic product (GDP) and the fiscal deficit as a percentage of the GDP shrank to just 1.3 per cent. The public debt was about 54 per cent of GDP, well below the 60 per cent prescribed by the Maastricht treaty. Inflation was 26 per cent and unemployment stands at about 2 per cent. Per capita income is more than \$13,000 (about £8,552).

"Furthermore, we plan to liberalise our financial system and abolish exchange controls before EU entry," says Christodoulos Christodoulou. the Finance Minister.

The EU absorbs nearly 60 per cent of the Greek Cypriots' exports and supplies more than 50 per cent of its imports. Not all Greek Cypriots wel-

ECONOMY



Christodoulos Christodoulou

come EU entry, particularly those involved in traditionally protected sectors, the clothing and footwear industries, where small units and rising wages have made their products increasingly uncompetitive against goods from Turkey and Portugal.

Tourism remains the engine of the economy, although the

about the over-reliance on a sector that can be buffeted by forces beyond the island's control. Last year more than two million tourists brought in revenue of £1,14 billion representing 21 per cent of the island's gross domestic product and 43 per cent of total

It is to lessen this dependence that Cyprus is diversifying into other service industries. There are ambitious plans to make the island a regional centre. But it is offshore business that has seen the most dynamic growth, helped by a welleducated local workforce, benign tax climate, first-rate telecommunications and an English-based legal system.

Offshore business brought in net receipts of £225 million last year, representing about a fifth of the revenue accruing from tourism. Big names using Cyprus as a safe regional base for the Middle East and beyond include Barclays, NCR, Coca-Cola, Tetrapak and Reuters, whose Nicosia office handles stories filed

Johannesburg and Tehran. These advantages go well beyond its fiscal regime and strategic location, says John Connell, senior manager at Barclays plc in Nicosia: In its culture. Cyprus is a European country with Christian values. abundant alcohol, no hangups about dress or familiarity between the sexes and extensive social integration between expatriates and locals."

The fastest growth in this sector has been from international ship management companies such as Hanseatic and Columbia, based mainly in the bustling southern port of Limassol. A fifth of the world's

ships now fly the Cyprus flag. There has also been an astonishing rise in the number of companies and offshore banks establishing from Russia and the former Eastern bloc. At the same time, Cyprus has attracted several large Western concerns seeking a low-tax springboard into the newly emerging markets of Eastern Europe, led by Canadian and American oil services companies.

The island's offshore sector will be on the bargaining table at Cyprus's EU membership talks. "Obviously, the low tax regime applying to the offshore sector constitutes a state aid." Mr Christodoulou says. "But we plan to present our arguments in a way that will

Spicy cosmopolitan flavour adds to fun in the sun

long ago when a British tourist in Cyprus could safely bet that the poolside sun lounger next to him was occupied by a fellow Briton. Now he may need Russian or Hebrew to strike up a casual conversation. For the tourism market, long dominated by visitors

English breakfasts" on their

The invasion of big-spend-

complicated

deal last

pavement signs.

nial power, has developed a quences of isolation. spicy cosmopolitan flavour with all the benefits that brings. Chicken Kiev and bortsch have appeared on the menus of some hotels which also list Jewish dishes for the growing number of Israelis making the trip to escape the pressure-cooker atmosphere something positive." at home. Homesick Britons Painful compromises will need not fear: it is still possible to get fish and chips and most cases boast "full

ial put it, "when there is finally a solution, I don't expect to see people dancing in the streets".

delighted the Greek Cypriots who are trying to lessen their

Last year 870,000 of the 2.3 million arrivals were from Britain. Perhaps because it was once a colony and most Cypriots speak English and drive on the left, the island from the island's former colohas a special attraction for the British, with many of them regular visitors.

A substantial number have chosen to retire here. UK pensions received in Cyprus are liable for income tax at a nominal rate of 3 per cent and investment income abroad is taxed only on those amounts remitted to Cyprus. Property prices are lower than in Britain but steadily rising.

Paphos, which has been recently spruced-up, offers a treasure trove of Roman anand Byzantine

churches. It is also a short drive from the wonderful Akamas peninsula, one of the Mediterranean's last unspoilt forests, home to unique species of fauna and flore and

whose pristine

beaches are per-

fect breeding

resorts of pretty towns like ley and backpackers from

TOURISM

grounds for A Paphos priest veloped coastrare turties. sells oranges Less than an hour's drive from Paphos are the pineclad Troodos mountains where summer breezes are refreshingly cool and monas-

terries are more common than It is into the mountain

Platres, home to Forest Park ho-Daphne Du Rebecca, that the Cyprus Tourism Org-anisation (CTO) hopes to coax tourists in an attempt to relieve pressure on the overde-

where

line. The CTO, afraid that Cyprus may kill the goose that lays the golden eggs, is happier with fewer visitors provided those who

do come spend more. It is unashamedly snobbish. Lager louts from BromBerlin are not welcome. The former are unpleasant, the latter do not spend enough. To attract a higher class of

visitor, or at least a bigger spending and more environmentally conscious one, Cyprus is promoting agrotourism for those who do not wish merely to blister on the beach. As a result, villages that suffered from years of rural depopulation are being tastefully restored to attract visitors who want a more genuine experience of life in Cyprus, from the basic but delicious cuisine to earthy farm smells and the braying of donkeys.

A national plan to market Cyprus as a golfing destination has business consortiums, hoteliers and even the Church of Cyprus queueing up to take advantage. One 18 hole course is already operating near Paphos, two more are in the pipeline and permission will be given for another two.

Legislation is being enacted to allow plush easines with glamorous floor shows. Marinas, to encourage nautical tourism, and theme parks are also seen as the way ahead. Waterworld, a Disney-style park with Greek mythology as its theme, is due to open in Ayia Napa next month.

The Government has also imposed tight restrictions on building hotels. Once seen as an object lesson in what to avoid in tourist development, Ayia Napa will soon be caught up in the move to take tourism decidedly upmarket

The town's mayor says that when this summer season is over, Ayia Napa will do away with gaudy neon signs. This is undoubtedly the way ahead if the goose is to keep laying its golden eggs.

Pathway through a minefield

The European Union, alarmed by the possibility of having to usher in a country split by a Berlinstyle wall, will launch a concerted diplomatic offensive this summer to solve the long-

the population, holding nearly two fifths of the island. Main-

land Turkish troops have en-

forced the division ever since,

with UN troops patrolling the

buffer zone. An older genera-

tion of bilingual Cypriots with a common, if troubled past, is

dving, while the new genera-

tions know each other only as

by President Glafcos Clerides.

76, the Greek Cypriot leader

and Rauf Denktas, 73, his

Turkish Cypriot counterpart. Both amiable, British-trained

lawyers, they have sparred for

three decades in failed inter-

communal talks. Each has

long accepted UN proposals to

reunite the island under a bi-

zonal federation, in which the

Turkish Cypriots would re-

turn some territory but re-

main a majority in an area un-

der their control. But the exact

nature of that federation and

That generation is headed

potential enemies.

running Cyprus problem. The Greek Cypriots are determined to enter Europe, with or without a solution. Culturally, as Orthodox Christians, they feel European. More than anything, their motivation is political. Being part of Europe, they feel, would allow them to sleep securely in their beds without fear of further Turkish

expansionism. Cyprus's accession talks are due to start at the beginning of 1998 and last for about two years. By the year 2000, then, Brussels hopes there will be a

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How the European Union is

Cyprus setleast real progress towards one, so that both within six months of the end of

ing the EU is a nightmarish possibility," says a European envoy. "Imagine all the political and legal nightmares that

The European drive will be by Federico Di headed Roberto, Italy's former Am-

bassador to Moscow. The commitment by Brussels to set a date for accession talks with Cyprus was won by

WINNERS OF THE 1994

FOR SERVICES

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CYPRUS EXPORT AWARD

working towards a solution



Greek and Turkish Cypriots can enter under the umbrella of a reunited federal republic. "An unsolved Cyprus enter-

would bring."

the inter-governmental confer-ence on the EU which begins in Turin today.
In return, Greece lifted its 14-year veto on developing ries between Turkey and the EU. A customs union between Brusseis and Ankara started in

January. Greek and Turkish Cypriots both hope the EU factor will persuade the other side to make concessions. The Greek Cypriots know entry will be very difficult without a sol-

ution — but not impossible, as

the Turkish Cyp-riots are well The Turks concern is missing the EU train if the Greek Cypriots board alone. Diplomats hone these pressures will result in more flexibility all round.

The EU has stopped short of saying it will not admit the Greek Cypriot administration before a settlement. To do

so would effectively give the Turks a veto over Cypriot

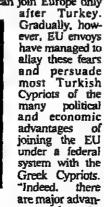
The Greek Cypriots were immensely relieved when the Brussels position was clarified earlier this month by Hans van den Broek, the EU's External Relations Commissioner: "Is membership possible without a solution? Yes. Is that preferable? No. Do we want another Berlin Wall in the Union? No. But at the same time can we delay indefinitely the aspirations of the majority of the Cyprus people who want to be in the EU?

The danger if Brussels delays Cyprus's entry long after 2000 is that Greece could block the EU's enlargement eastwards. This concern has prompted keen interest in the Cyprus problem from Germany, now actively involved for the first time, and from France. Britain, as the former colonial power with strategic

military bases on Cyprus, continues to play a key role in pressing for a settlement.

There are grounds for cautious optimism. The Turkish Cypriots were furious when Cyprus's application for EU entry was made in 1990 by the internationally recognised Greek Cypriot administration. They insisted the Greek Cypriots had no right to negotiate on their behalf a deal they feared could damage their interests.

Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, threatened closer integration with Turkey if Cyprus acceded to the EU. He insisted that under agreements that gave Cyprus its independence, the island can only become a member of international organisations to which both motherlands belong: effectively arguing that Cyprus can join Europe only after Turkey.



EU commissioner

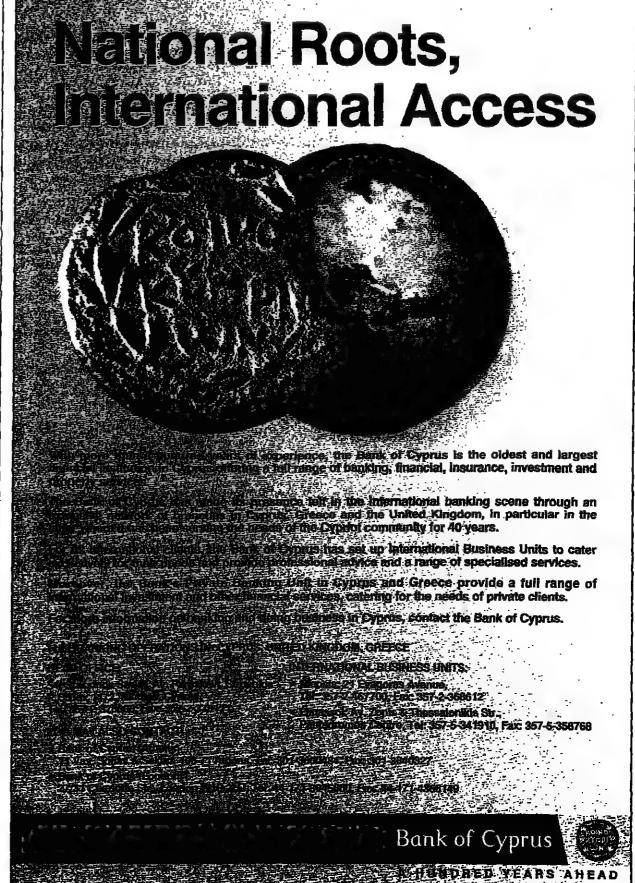
Turkish Cypriots if they join the EU in a united Cyprus," Gilles Anouil, the EU's Ambassador to Cyprus,

tages for the

Their security, he insists, would be enhanced as the EU would acknowledge any guarantees given under a United Nations-sponsored peace deal, even if this included Turkish troops remaining on the island as part of an international force. Turkish Cypriots would also have their identity as a specific community recognised internationally.

"And crucially, northern Cyprus would be a vacuum for investment. There would be a huge boost to its economy tourists and capital would pour in," M Anouil says.

International isolation and a European Union ban on trade with northern Cyprus has meant that the per capita income there is just \$3,500 (£2,300), little more than a quarter of what it is in the booming south.



View from Turin

enthusiasm.....

Aye, liners

Children first

TV LISTINGS

Preview: The raspberries are as

rich as David Lloyd's accent. Fruity Stories (Channel 4, 8pm). Review:

Lynne Truss on an intelligent reappraisal of Muhammad Ali Page 47

A multi-dimensional Europe could

be one in which the British can feel

more at ease than they have since

1991, when the Maastricht treaty was signed in a rush of federalist

Couples who have been struggling

with local authorities will not thank

the health department for having

taken so long to draft and send out seven sheets of A4 paper ... Page 19

Golf at sea is as unnatural as hunt-

ing in High Holborn Page 19-

COLUMNS

OPINION

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Meat from cattle at risk banned

■ An emergency ban on the sale of meat from cattle most at risk of "mad cow" disease was announced as John Major prepared to appeal to his European partners to lift the worldwide blockade on British beef.

Unveiling the first moves in the Government's increasingly frenzied efforts to restore public confidence. Douglas Hogg promised a £1.5 million a week subsidy for renderers disposing of waste and £50 million to prop up prices....... Pages 1, 12, 13

'Spiteful' bank must pay £81,000

A City bond dealer who claimed that the world's biggest bank set out to wreck her reputation and her career after she took it to an industrial tribunal was awarded £81,000 compensation. The Fuji bank was denounced by the chairmanPage 1 as malevolent, spiteful and deeply insulting......

Soldiers convicted

Three British soldiers were last night found guilty of kidnapping and killing a 23-year-old Danish tour guide in Cyprus .. Pages I. 3

Army race classes

Every member of the Household Cavalry has been ordered to attend race relations classes to learn how to talk to members of ethnic minorities after a damning report on racial discrimination in the unit ...

Russian spies

Russian espionage is back in a big way in Britain at a time when MI5's counter-spy resources have been cut by 50 per cent, a parliamentary report said.........Page 2

Heir deported

The Home Office is expected to announce today that Jay Khadka, the former Nepalese mountain boy who is heir to a £2.5 million fortune, is to be deported .Page 3 Adoption changes

Political correctness will be banished and red tape swept away under government proposals to

make adoption easier and more popular in an effort to reverse the steep decline in infants available to childless couples over the past 25 years..... £220,000 damages

A hairdresser won £220,000 damages after a jury found that he was assaulted by police and

Judges' defence

Senior judges attacked the "tangle and confusion" in sentencing powers when they rejected an appeal for stiffer custody terms for four teenage robbers......... Page 6

Forth Bridge alert

The Forth Bridge has been allowed to deteriorate to such an extent that Railtrack has been ordered to start an emergency maintenance programme or risk prosecution....

Labour's secret

Labour's high poll ratings reflect strong approval for Tony Blair and the party's moderate image rather than enthusiasm for the rest of the leadership team and its policies, says MORI Page 8

Police lost statement Police lost a vital statement given by a British tourist, detailing an attack by Ivan Milat, the alleged Australian serial killer, it emerged during the backpacker murder trial in Sydney_Page 10

The reputation of Israel's internal security service was destroyed by the inquiry into the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin which accused it

Dangerous job

Security blunder

Lalai, a young Afghan boy, tells of his career as a mine clearer with the simple sentence: "One morning I went into the fields to wrongfully arrestedPage 5 collect firewood".....

Women 'choose to stay at home'

Feminist academics who thought they had long settled the question of women's place in society have been dragged back to the debating chamber by a London don who argues that far more women prefer the role of wife and homemaker than feminists have led us to believe. Dr Catherine Hakim has studied attitude surveys in Britain and Europe...... Page 3



BUSINESS

Jobs: United Utilities, the merged North West Water and Norweb group, is to cut an extra 1,700 jobs in addition to the 800 redundancies declared after the £1,800 million deal went ahead., Coek RJB made £173 million in its

mines that it bought when British Coal was privatised Page 25 Broadcasting: NTL, the company that built up the broadcasting network for ITV and Channel 4, is to be bought by an American company, International

first year of owning the English

CableTel Page 25 Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 0.2 to 3672.6. Sterling fell from 83.4 to 83.3 after a rise from \$1.5185 to \$1.5231 but a fall from DM2.2583 to

DM2.2516 ...

SPORT

Racing: The smallest field since 1970 will line up for the Grand National after a spate of lastminute withdrawals including Lo Stregone, the well-backed second favourite_ .. Page 48

Cricket: John Emburey has turned down the chance to be England's coach. His withdrawal leaves the way clear for the appointment of David Lloyd

Football: Transfer deadline day in England passed off with barely a whimper. Fifteen permanent moves were concluded, totalling £4.25 million, and 22 loan

. Page 48 Boxing: Nigel Benn will be back in the ring in June against Steve Collins, the WBO super-middleweight ..Page 28 champion.

ARTS

High note: A confident, crisp and strong cast make Covent Garden's Arabella a great success, says Rodney Milnes.

Dancing happy: With Ae Fond Kiss, the fomer dancer, Mark Baldwin, proves his worth as Scottish Ballet's new resident choreographer

Thumbs down: Benedict Nightingale does not find much to recommend in Nigel Williams's new farce, Harry and Me, about a television chat show, now on at the Royal Court.....

Pop on Friday: Los Lobos make an astounding return to the world of music after four years of silence with a successfully diverse new album: Caitlin Moran on Mark

TOMORROW

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left), Miller's Crossing

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BOOKS

IN THE TIMES

evolution

more to the Dubai World Cup than the world's richest horse-race, as Clement Freud discovers... Page 16 Demob happy: Valerie Grove interviews Marmaduke Hussey, outgo-

War zone: On the BSE frontline. and the dilemma of whether to serve or not to serve beef .. Page 17

Testing times: Tests for 14-year-

EDUCATION

olds: Day Five of the national curriculum guide......

FOCUS

...... Pages 22, 23 vided island Up and away: How the future is taking off for Bournemouth International Airport Pages 32-34

Dawkins on Darwin: Richard Dawkins argues that all living things owe their design not to God but to

Mother of all treebies: There's

Cyprus: Moves to reunite this di-

THE PAPERS

Mr Clinton's handling of China as tensions mounted over Taiwan was a skillful mix of diplomacy and strength, including the judicious use of the Seventh Fleet to signal America's commitment to maintaining the peace in the region. It would be a shame to kick away those gains now buy winking at" China's nuclear dealings with Paki-- The New York Times

JOHN REDWOOD FEATURES. A Euro-state with too much law and tax from Brussels would cut us

off from the opportunities that the world and its dynamic changes offer. It is time for Britain to save ___ Page !6 Europe from itselfPage 18 DAVID SELBOURNE It is time for a generalised politics of civic and personal responsibility

ing BBC chairman....... Page 17

to Labour to attempt it Page 18 PHILIP HOWARD

Music-makers are closer to real poetry than the too-clever verses of Pope, the poet for those who do not understand poetry Page 18

which is sustained by sanction, so

that the moral order can be re-

stored - and it looks as if it will fall

PETER RIDDELL

Don't bet on an early general election. Of course, the Government may be forced into calling one this autumn merely to avoid losing the political initiative over the Page 8

OBITUARIES

Shin Kanemaru, Japanese politician; Simon Nowell-Smith, former Librarian of the London Library: Dr William Styles, general practitioner, Margaret Homfray, Montessori teacher trainer Page Zr

LEBBS W

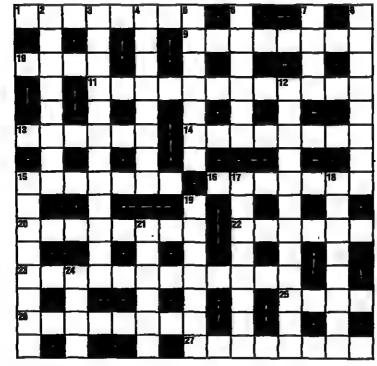
Law on blasphemy; agricultural research cuts; RSPCA and animalwelfare; BSE; Queen in Poland; university admissions; EMU

Sunny

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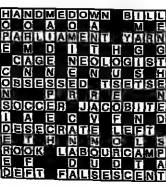
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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20.128



- I Where to get drugs fast, without 9 Discharge girl one kept in a very
- long time (8). 10 Presently unidentified (4).
- 11 Leader of rebellion deplored rent revision (3,9). 13 Hymn in German translation (6).
- 14 Street in each part of town going in one direction (8).
- 15 Runs with lots of flesh displayed outside (7). 16 China has to maintain conference
- 20 I rail about closure of border it is a nuisance (8). 22 City police in US try to return pet
- 23 Suffer financial hardship if help thence is redirected (4,3,5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,127



25 Flag of island trimmed (4). 26 Bloomers made as one ship with

one load of fish returned (8). 27 Bird dog used by the Spanish (8).

2 Hot and cold water laid on to craft

used as transport (8). Deploy me and I'll hunt for stock (3.2.3.4).

4 Creature finds a way in the Bible to animal refuge (8).

5 Refuse piled up without attention - is that desired? (7).

6 A hut is demolished, creating gap (6). 7 Went fast and fell, so to speak (4).

8 Burglar finds one book collection more offensive (8). 12 Hiram's nephew distraught, in a

state (3,9). 15 Give information about very good and very loud champion (8).

17 Sea room required around main mass of land (8).

18 Drive out whale? One's found in river (8). 19 Primarily something that you

press to injured chin (7). 21 Amazed commanders with

shorter version of it (6). 24 Vessel's sound net (4).

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mainly northerty but tending to swing northeasterly. Temperatures will be a little below normal. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sunny Intervals and showers, falling as snow in the mountains. Winds will be fresh and temperatures below normal. and temperatures below normal.

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moderatis, north to northeasterly. Max
9C, 48F.

☐ E Anglia, E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: sunny intervals with some sleet or snow showers. Wind moderate to treah, northerly. Max 6C, 43F.

N Wales, NW England, Lake
District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland: clear or surny spells. Wind moderate, north to northeasterly. Max 8C, 46F. Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: sunny intervals and showers falling as snow

over the mountains. Wind northerly, fresh to strong. Mex 5C, 41F.

Outlook: little change. Overnight frosts with a risk of showers in the

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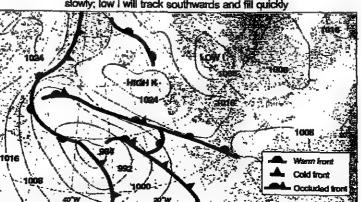
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TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY MARCH 29 1996

Anger over 'savage' job cuts

Merged utility to cut an extra 1,700 workers

UNITED UTILITIES, the group formed from North West Water and North Water and Norweb electricity, is to cut 1,700 more jobs by integrating the two operations.

The company also announced that water charges will rise 5.8 per cent this year, while electricity charges will go up 4.9 per cent. While other water bills have risen this year, the electricity price hike flies in the face of other price armouncements.

The job cuts are planned to be voluntary, with workers offered packages of between £20,000 and £50,000. They will be staged over the next three years and will cost the company £104 million. The cuts come on top of 800 losses announced after the merger. The future is also uncertain for a further 4,500 staff in operations that United said yesterday it planned to sell.

Labour and Unison, the broad-based union representing a large percentage of workers at the merged utility condemned the move. Michael Meacher, Shadow Employment Secretary, said: were privatised, the Tories promised the public that putting together gas, water and elec-tricity companies would make for efficiency and a better service to the consumer. In fact it has led to rising water charges, wholesale job losses for front-line staff and huge fat-cat salary rises for senior

Mike Jeram, Unison's head of energy, said: "Our worst fears have come true today. This level of cuts is a savage blow to our members." He added: "This is a highly profitable company and the real

reason for these cuts is bigger profits and dividends." The company said that it regretted the losses but that there were substantial cost savings to be made on the merger which, said Brian Staples, chief executive, exceeded intial hopes.

United expects to make savings of £140 million a year once the integration of the two operations is complete. That estimate is 40 per cent ahead of the expectations when North West Water took over its electricity neighbour. The

The heavy price of privatisation

MORE than 42,000 jobs have been lost in the electricity industry since it was privatised. The water industry has seen the loss of nearly 11,000 workers since the 10 main companies were sold. British Gas has shed 25,000 workers and recently announced plans for further cuts. British Telecommunications has cut more than 100,000 since It went into private hands.

company will also sell some businesses including its retail operation and investment in generating plant in disposals that it expects to deliver £350

The benefits of cost savings will go entirely to shareholders until the year 2000 when the next regulatory review on pricing will set tougher standards that should bring price cuts. In the meantime United has told the water and electricity regulators that it will offer spontaneous paybacks to cus-

tomers if the merger of the two companies delivers greater than expected savings - as it is proving to do. However, it will be a gentleman's agree-ment and effectively in the hands of the company. Even after 2000, benefits will be delivered to customers only on a transitional basis with half the gains from acquisition still liable to be returned to shareholders.

Mr Staples said that one-off returns to customers were likely but would not elaborate.

United's sale programme for its businesses includes Norweb Retail and follows a trend by electricity companies to bail out of retail operations. It is also selling the water division's process equipment and the company's interest in acceration. Mr Staples said he was not convinced of the benefits of vertical integration to electricity companies despite the movement by the generators to acquire regional companies.

The shake-up comes as the company has finalised its orogramme for the merger of the electricity and water operations and is ahead of its results for a provision of £173 million made against long-term power pur chase contracts made Norweb at the two power stations which United is its selling

The results will also show a dry weather provision of £25 million for extra costs in the water business after last year's drought. The company is putting £75 million into its water division which has a leakage rate of about 26 per cent.



Eyecare Products, the maker of sunglasses and spectacle frames, yesterday reported 1995 profits of £3.2 million before tax after losses of £3 million 1994

BT merger talks with C&W reopen

CABLE AND WIRELESS said last night that it had reopened merger talks with BT to create one of the world's largest telecoms groups. The statement came after C&W shares rose 34p to

5112p, setting a high for the year.
C&W said that "some exploratory discussions are being held with British Telecommunications which may or may not lead to the merger of the two companies." Neither company would give details. It is thought that C&W has also held informal talks with AT&T, America's largest long-distance phone company. AT&T, like BT, is attracted to C&W because of its strong presence in Asia, where it owns 57.5 per cent of Hong Kong Telecom.

The merger talks began in secret late last year. C&W was forced to announce two weeks ago that the talks had collapsed. It gave no reason, but sources close to the negotiations said C&W balked at the merger proposal when BT refused to consider a deal that valued C&W shares at more than about 550p. When the talks began, C&W shares were trading at about 420p.

It is now understood that informal contacts between the companies continued, despite the statements put out by C&W and BT earlier this month. Their financial advisers are said to have continued working on the project. C&W's adviser is Goldman Sachs, the US investment bank. The man heading the team is Richard Sharp, the Goldman Sachs managing director who is son of Lord Sharp, the former chairman of C&W. BT's adviser is NM Rothschild.

The two companies are now discussing various issues, including the value and the structure of the deal. During the last round of meetings at board level, BT was said to be willing to value C&W at some premium, but was not prepared to add a significant amount. The companies, however, had reached an agreement in principle on

the structure of the merger. It was to be done through a reverse takeover, in which C&W would have issued new shares to acquire the much larger BT. BT proposed this because it wanted to avoid the £6 billion expense of having to buy out the minority shareholders of Hong Kong Telecom. Under Hong Kong stock exchange rules, a takeover of C&W would force the new owner to buy out the minority shareholders.

YOUR

Pennington, page 27

TODAY

BUSINESS

In fighting Britain's business prospects

are being damaged by continuing Conservative
Party in-fighting over Europe, as the inter-governmental conference on the future of Europe opens in Turin. The Institute of Management has found that 63 per cent of managers believe that the continuing disagreements within the Conservative Party over Europe are adversely affecting business. Page 26

Solid figures

Blue Circle, the building group that last month said it would cut up to 1,300 jobs. yesterday reported a pre-tax profit of £263.8 million for last year, compared with £184.4 million in 1994. Page 27

Eidos buys games company

EIDOS. the computer technology and games company, has agreed to buy CentreGold, the games software publisher, in a £17.2 million all-share deal (Eric Reguly writes). It will be funded by a £23.8 million rights issue.

The announcement came shortly after Centre-Gold's shares started trading after their suspension at 37p in early February for failure to publish fullyear financial results.

The deal values CentreGold shares at 40p. well below their issue price of 123p in 1993. The shares peaked at 165p, then began to slump when demand switched to more advanced games based on CD-Roms

Charles Cornwall, chief executive of Eidos, said CentreGold has made the conversion and now has a strong list of software releases on CD-Rom format. Eidos had an operating loss of £695,000 in the half year to the end of January. compared with an Ell.4 million loss in the 12

RJB announces buy-back as profits exceed forecasts

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

THE first annual figures from Britain's privatised coal industry raced ahead of forecasts when RJB, the company which bought the bulk of British Coal's English collieries, produced pre-tax profits of £173.1 million. Increased electricity de-

mand and greater cost savings than expected meant that sales and pre-tax profits to December 31 were sharply up on projections made in RJB's prospectus when it was about to buy the pits.

Britain's biggest coal producer also announced plans for a £100 million share buyback. Richard Budge, chief executive, said: "We are in a position to give something back to the people who invest-ed in us and took the risks so that is what we intend to do."

It has £55 million of acquisition debt left after paying back 6313 million last year and is 49 per cent geared. The company plans to repay the remainder of the debt by April next year. RIB cut production costs 5 per cent further than it had forecast, taking its cost of

gigajoule, which is about 4p below some estimates. RJB is under pressure to bring down coal costs ahead of renegotiat-ing contracts with electricity generators. Its contracts with National Power and Power-Gen expire in 1998.

Electricity demand increased 2.6 per cent last year, against a forecast rise of 1.5 Increased use spread

throughout the year, boosted by more use of air conditioning and refrigeration in the summer. There was also an unexpected demand from generators. Last year, before the British Coal purchase, RJB produced pre-tax profits of

£16.09 million. The final dividend, payable on May 24, is 10.5p, making a total of 16p and a rise of 28 per



Richard Budge is to buy back shares to reward investors

Loans hint at revival in housing

By JANET BUSH IUMIUS CORRESPONDENT

FURTHER tentative signs of recovery in the housing market emerged yesterday with figures showing higher bank mortgage leading and an en-couraging rise in new mortgage approvals. The British Bankers' Associ-

ation said major banks made atton said major banks made gross loans of £1.54 billion in February, 3 per cent up on January. Net lending, which has the advantage of being seasonally adjusted, rose by £631 million, compared with a rise of £578 million in January.

New approvals were well up on January, rising by 32 per cent. This jump mostly reflected seasonal factors, but was still a much better perfor mance than last year, suggest-ing an underlying improvement. Between January and February last year, approvals were up only 14 per cent.

Tim Sweeney, the Director General of the BBA, said that banks appeared to have gained market share from building societies, but he also said that there appeared to have been a modest firming in



CableTel to buy NTL in £235m deal

By ERIC REGULY

US-OWNED International CableTel agreed yesterday to buy NTL, the broadcast and communications services provider, in a deal marking the cable industry's first significant diversification. CableTel, the third-largest cable company, is to acquire NTL debt-free for £200 million cash plus a payment of up

to £35 million in a year's time. The price

represents a hefty return for Mercury

Development Capital, which owns 78 radio links between its transmission per cent. It paid about E70 million for its stake in 1991, when NTL, then owned by the independent Broadcasting Authority, was privatised.

NTL is best known for having built the broadcasting network for FTV and Channel 4 and most of the commercial radio stations, and is constructing the broadcasting system for Channel 5. It also set up a national telecommunications network by installing microwave

CableTel, whose shares are listed on

America's Nasdaq market, has \$8,000 cable TV and telephony customers in franchises ranging from Northern Ireland to West Surrey. Those franchises contain 2.3 million homes and it expects to complete its network by the turn of the century at a cost of £1.2 billion.

CableTel and NTL said their merger, in effect, would create a mini-BT.

tive, said: "We're putting together a local and national network, like BT. except ours will have high-capacity broadband capability."

They said they plan to offer a full range of voice, video and data transmission services to business and residential customers and may eventually offer high-speed Internet access links.

Pennington, page 27

CALL NOW ON

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BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S business prospects are being damaged by continuing Conservative Party in-fighting over Europe, UK managers say today as the inter-governmental conference on the future of Europe opens in Turin.

Sixty-three per cent of managers believe that the continuing disagreements within the Conservative Party over Europe are adversely affecting the UK's business relationships in Europe, according to a survey carried out by the

Institute of Management. Furthermore, 64 per cent of managers, surveyed by the institute in conjunction with BBC TV's Business Breakfast, say that the adoption by the Government of a clearly Eurosceptical agenda would damage British business. The survey, of a representative

Coventry rewards customers

THE Coventry Building Society is to return half its annual profits to customers in a £20 million package of mortgage cuts and improved savers' rates (Anne Ashworth writes). The move is designed to

affirm the thirteenth largest society's commitment to mutuality. Another aim is to retain borrowers in the mortgage war between lenders by giving loyal customers better deals.

About 40,000 borrowers who have been with the society for five years or more will see their mortgage rate reduced by 0.76 per cent to 6.49 per cent.

The rates on 575,000 Coventry variable rate savings accounts will be raised by up to 0.5 per cent. sample of almost 400 senior managers, shows that Britain's business leaders are strongly pro-Europe, with as many as 79 per cent supporting closer economic union with the EU.

However, they are sceptical about political union, with 52 per cent against it.

The study shows majority support for a referendum on the UK's participation in a single currency, with 51 per

However, support for a single currency itself is more finely balanced

The findings are awkward for the Government, but support business organisations such as the Confederation of British Industry that insist that the inter-governmental conference must place competitiveness at the top of its agenda for Europe.

Managers remain divided

on the issue of a single currency. Some business organisations, such as the Institute of Directors, claim strong opposition among company leaders to a single currency, but the institute's survey is in line with others in suggesting that business opinion is divided, with 43 per cent in favour and 44 per cent against.

However, institute officials point out that this may represent a "warming" of opinion towards a single currency, since in a similar survey six months ago, only 39 per cent were in favour, with 46 per

Managers remain concerned about the cost of some European proposals, in particular the EU's social agenda. However, there is support for one issue ministers that insist is contentious — the introduction of European-style works

The idea that they should be adopted in the UK is supported by 47 per cent of managers, with only 30 per cent against.

CENSORS

FAIL US

The British Board of

socially confused and

intellectually inconsistent.

institutionally perverse 3

Bryan Appleyard, Feature

Writer of the Year, on why

film and video censorship

- in The Culture on Sunday

isn't working

Film Classification is



Andrew Coppel says that Queens Moat Houses will be making more disposals

Queens Moat cuts £56m from its losses

By Alasdair Murray

QUEENS MOAT HOUSES. the hotel group, yesterday un-veiled a cut in full-year losses excluding exceptionals to £2.5 million from E59 million in 1994, helped by an improved operating performance.

However, the company remains heavily in debt, in spite of last year's £1.3 billion refinancing package, with net liabilities of £196 million and net debt only slightly reduced at £1 billion.

However, Andrew Coppel chief executive, insisted that the company was meeting the terms of its financing package and would continue to do so through increased operating profits and further disposals. It would also "explore one or two avenues towards repackaging the balance sheet. He was cautiously optimistic about this year's prospects, with further growth expected in the UK.

The group has been the sub-ject of bid rumours in recent weeks, with the Barciay brothers and Stakis, the leisure group, mentioned. Earlier this week, it emerged that a Swiss investment firm, Incentive Investment, had taken a 11.2 per stake. However, Mr Coppel said that Queens Moat had not received an approach from any potential buyer.

Full-year operating profits rose by 27 per cent, to £44.7 million, aided by higher room yields in the UK and The Netherlands, Overall turnover rose by 6 per cent, to £454

million. There is no dividend. Revaluation resulted in a 6.4 per cent like for like rise in the value of the group's hotels, to £891.3 million.

Pennington, page 27

Central Statistical Office bows out

By JANET BUSH

ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

FAREWELL to the Central Statistical Office. Hello to the grandly titled Office for National Statistics.

Today is the last day of independence for the CSO, set up by Winston Churchill in 1941 in the same building as the War Cabinet in Horse-guards Road. He wanted reliable statistics to that he could

THE SUNDAY TIMES

properly harness the economy to the war effort. From Monday, the CSO merges with the Office of

veys as the new ONS. The national importance of good statistics is still being emphasised, more than 50 years on. Dr Tim Holt, the dynamic head of the CSO who now becomes chief executive of the ONS, said: "Statistics are a cornerstone of democra-

Population Censuses & Sur-

cy." He said he wanted to overcome the average Briton's fears of figures by making relevant and more easily

understood. The new office will, for the first time, create a single institution which will give a complete statistical picture of social and economic life in Britain. The array of publications on offer is extraordinary, from a definitive guide to the

popularity of first names to Housing Deprivation and Social Change and the National Diet and Nutrition Survey, as well as all the key economic

statistics. There is one unfortunate statistic which greets the new merger. Like most other sections of Whitehall, there will be job losses. The ONS expects lose about 200 posts. But the new statistics powerhouse will still employ 3,400.

Profits at Booker rise to £82m

A strong performance by its cash & carry and salmon farming businesses helped to lift 1995 pre-tax profits at Booker, the food group, to £82.8 million (£69.8 million).

The company said that it has a low exposure to the beef business, so the BSE scare should have little impact on profitability. Its much larger fish business may ben-

efit if the public alters its diet. Booker is recommending a full-year dividend of 23.1p per share, up from 22.4p. Its shares rose 13p to 395p

China venture

Grand Metropolitan, the drinks company, has formed a joint venture with Qufu, the state-owned Chinese distillery, to produce and market its spirits in China. It will invest about £18 million in a new joint company which will be 67 per cent owned by Interna-tional Distillers and Vintners, its spirit subsidiary. Produc-tion is expected by November.

Roskel ahead

Roskel, the specialist building products group, lifted pre-tax profits to £2.7 million (£1.7 million) in 1995. Earnings were 10.69p (6.49p) a share. The total dividend rises to 4.6p (4.3p), with a final 3.3p due on July L Shares rose 10p

Buyer sought

Vaux Group, the brewing public houses and hotels group, is seeking a buyer for St Andrews, its care home business which comprises 35 homes. Last year the business made pre-tax profits of £4.6 million on turnover of £20.2 million. Vaux said options include a management

Water price rise

Water and sewerage bills in England and Wales will rise 23 per cent on average this year. Ian Byatt, the regulator, said the figure — which included rebates paid by companies — showed an encouraging deceleration in the increases in bills. The rise

Deutsche Bank plans to expand

By Patricia Terian BANKING CORRESPONDENT

DEUTSCHE BANK plans to spend DM700 million expanding its investment bank-ing business this year, up from DM400 million in 1995.

Deutsche merged its international investment banking operations with those of Morgan Grenfell in October 1994 and put them under the new Deutsche Morgan Grenfell name in June last year. Since the start of last year, the company has hired 200 staff. Hilmar Kopper, chief executive of Deutsche Bank, said: "In investment banking, we plan special expenditure of around DM700 million in

1996, particularly for staff."
The bank does not produce separate figures for DMG. However, it said securities, foreign exchange and derivatives trading profits doubled to DM2 billion.

DMG worked on See-board's £1.6 billion offer for Central & South West Corporation and ScottishPower's El.I billion bid for Manweb last year. Deutsche Bank's net profits were 23.5 per cent higher at DM2.1 billion.

D Last year's acquisition of Barings held back banking profits for ING, the Dutch financial services group. They were 15 per cent higher at 2.65 billion guilders (£1.05 billion).

TOURIST RATES

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

British Energy float cheaper for public

THIRTY per cent of the shares of British Energy, the company formed from the more modern parts of the nuclear industry, will be offered to the public at a discount when the business floats in July. The discount to the price professional investors will have to pay will be determined later but is likely to be about 2-3 per cent. A package of incentives, yet to be decided, is also to be tacked on to the offer for private investors who buy through share shops.

The flotation, which is thought unlikely to command a high price in the market, begins in earnest in late May when the Government will start marketing British Energy. Some of the more pessimistic forecasts put the value of the company, which is locked in discussions with the Department of Trade and Industry over the debt it will take into the private sector, at £2.1 billion. This falls substantially short of the £2.9 billion to build the Sizewell B generating plant, which has recently

Bank to cut 150 jobs

THE Bank of England is to cut 150 jobs and close four of its five regional branches after deciding to concentrate its hanknote activity in a single cash centre in Leeds. The Bank will end its cash-handling in Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester and Newcastle, opting for the one northern site and one southern operation, split between London and Debries. The Bank plane to maintain appearing in each Debden, Essex. The Bank plans to maintain agencies in each of the cities to monitor economic trends, and to open agencies in Cardiff, Nottingham and Greater London, making |2 in all.

Graseby falls back

GRASEBY, the electronic instrumentation company, has promised to return to profit growth this year after a 40 per cent fall in full-year profits for 1995 to £6 million. The company was hit by teething problems with its new product-monitoring equipment and by a £2.1 million charge for the termination of contracts in its environmental division. Overall turnover was flat at £94 million. The total dividend is unchanged, at 6.6p, with a final dividend of 3.9p payable on May 28. The company's shares rose by 1.5p, to 120p.

Senior moves ahead

SENIOR ENGINEERING, the specialist international engineering group, achieved a 40 per cent rise in profits from continuing operations in 1995 and said it entered 1996 with excellent order books. At the pre-tax level, profits rose to £22.13 million, from £18.1 million, after a £7 million charge against the settlement of a dispute with Slough Trading Estates and a El million write-off after the disposal of an Australian subsidiary. Earnings were 5.04p a share (4.38p). The total dividend rises to 3.6p a share from 3.4p, with a final 2.23p due on June 5.

Jobs boost at L&G

MORE than 400 jobs will be created in Cardiff over the next three years as Legal & General establishes its UK-wide phone sales and advice centre in the city. The company's £10 million investment is assisted by a £2 million regional selective grant from the Welsh Office. Recruitment is expected to begin after Easter. The centre will provide advice on a wide variety of Legal & General products including investments, private health insurance, mortgages, life insurance and pensions.

Gas output at new high

OFFSHORE gas output rose by nearly 7 per cent last month to its highest level yet, helped by the cold weather and increased demand from gas-fired power stations. Its low price also led to increased demand from industrial users. The biggest rise in output came in the Morecambe field, which accounted for 17 per cent of production. The figures, in the Royal Bank of Scotland's North Sea oil and gas index report, showed that oil production last month fell by 0.5 per cent to 2.57 million barrels a day.

General

reforms

Baird profits dive

PROFITS at William Baird, the clothing company that is a supplier to Marks & Spencer, fell sharply to £10.3 million before tax in 1995 from £25.1 million previously, affected by a tough trading environment, an increase in raw material prices, and abnormal weather patterns. There was a £9.8 million charge against restructuring. The total dividend is held at 9.35p a share, with an unchanged 5.8p final due on July 4, payable from earnings of 5.4p (14.8p).

Germany pegs rates

THE Bundesbank yesterday left key German interest rates unchanged. At its policy-making council meeting, the last before the German central bank's Easter break, the discount rate was kept at 3 per cent, the Lombard emergency financing rate at 5 per cent and the key money market repurchase rate at 3.3 per cent. The M3 measure of money supply grew at an annualised rate of 12.6 per cent in February, well above the 7 per cent ceiling of a target range.

The Standard Life Assurance Company Annual General Meeting

The 170th Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held in the Head Office, 3 George Street, Edinburgh on Tuesday 23 April 1996 at 2.30pm.

A member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote. A proxy need not be a member.

By order of the Board of Directors D M Simpson

Secretary Edinburgh, 28 March 1996

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts, including the agenda, by writing to the Customer Service Information Team at PO Box 141, 1 Tanfield, Edinburgh EH3 SRG or by telephoning (0131) 245 2668. Proxy forms may be similarly obtained by members entitled to vote.



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5,000 TICKETS FOR MIGHTY APHRODITE

Woody Allen's latest movie, Mighty Aphrodite, which produced a best supporting actress Oscar for Mira Sorvino (pictured), hits Britain next month. The Sunday Times has 2,500 pairs of tickets to bewon for pre-release screenings around the country

PLUS

Snap up videos of classic movies for just £2.99 including post and packing

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

☐ The triumph of United Utilities ☐ Zooming in on a once unpopular sector ☐ Hotels group struggles to return to normal

The dangers of success

☐ THERE are times when it is impolite to boast too loudly about a success, and times when it can be downright dangerous. You do not have to be a newly unemployed electrician pounding the streets of Manchester in search of a job to feel unhappy about yesterday's display of ruth-less cost-cutting from the local water and electricity commonly.

nersy float public

" ahead

, (wa)

water and electricity company.
Previous waves of job losses in electricity in the five years since privatisation were to benefit shareholders and customers alike. By contrast, the £140 million in cost cuts by the year 2000 trumpeted by United Utilities will go almost in their entirety to investors, in the form of dividends running at least 11 per cent above inflation. There is only an informal promise to share any unexpected bounty from the merger, over and above that level, with customers.

The bills for water and power will continue to climb, under the existing regulatory regime that will not change until the millen-nium. Only then will the customers start to see some reward from Sir Desmond Pitcher's grand dream. This was, it must be admitted, derided by many when announced last year, and yesterday's triumphal procession was clearly designed to show that the financial advantages will be far higher than even the optimists then envisaged.

On a more negative tack, the merger has left United Utilities with hefty debt and the need to raise E350 million by the sale of a rag-bag of former Norweb busi-nesses to keep this under control. What price, in today's trading climate, for a collection of shops selling electricity appliances? Even Hanson, after all, was reduced to giving them away.

The consequence of the creation of this monster in the North West will almost certainly be more water/power mergers, if only because shareholders will demand nothing less. The rise in United Utilities' share price yesterday with which the City celebrated the mass sackings was matched by another jump for Hyder, the renamed Welsh Water-South Wales Electricity amalgam. This message will not amalgam. This message will not be lost on others in both sectors, especially those in areas like London and Yorkshire where the local water and electricity companies make a good overlap. Likewise Eastern, once demerged from Hanson, might take an interest in Anglia Water.

trying to look as benign and cuddly as possible in the eyes of a possible future Labour government. The current electricity regulator has shown himself willing to redraw his pricing regime if he feels he did not get it

right first time around.

New Labour, if in government, will have the perfect ideological excuse to tighten the screw indeed, most market strategists are factoring a harsher climate for the utilities into their recommendations for investing under a Blair government. Shouting from the rooftops about just how good you are at sacking people might not look too clever then.

Cable no longer a pipe-dream

THE cable business, hitherto seen as a disaster waiting to happen, is showing some starthing signs of life.

International CableTel is pay-ing as much as £235 million for NTL. Several international take an interest in Anglia Water.
And yet. And yet. Any utility with any sense has of late been and AT&T, may end up squabbling over

PENNINGTON



Videotron, the cable operator

whose franchises cover the City of London and Westminster.

The very idea of a bidding war seemed absurd a few months ago, when every cable share was trading at well below its issue price. Some were even wondering if the various parents, mostly American and Canadian, would have to give the franchises away to avoid additional billions in capital expenditures with no

returns in sight.
So what has changed? The telecoms and media industries are coming to the conclusion that direct access to the residential consumer is the key. They may be right. Mercury is strug-gling precisely because it lacks that access. For years it has

pared to £42.4 in 1994. Blue

Circle blamed difficult mar-

kets in the UK and continental

Europe. It said that restructur-

ing should mean savings of £9

million this year and £25

million per year thereafter. It

would not comment on its

plans for job cuts, saying

complex negotiations were

continuing.
The UK cement division

made a marginally higher

operating profit last year, up

1.9 per cent to £65.3 million.

despite lower volumes. Blue

Circle, which is putting its

cement prices up on April I, said it expects the market to

improve in the second half of this year, as the demand for

In the US, operating profits

were up 30.7 per cent to £63.5

million, helped by a building

boom around Atlanta, Geor-

gia as it prepares for this

summer's Olympics. Other

markets, including Chile, Ma-

laysia, Singapore and Africa,

The company's bathrooms business, which includes Armitage Shanks and Qualitas and Italy's Ceramica

Dolomite, saw operating profits up 6.3 per cent to £27 million despite difficult mar-

"We managed to turn bath-

rooms around and are

absoloutely confident that we

can do the same with heating,"

Keith Orrell-Jones, chief exec-

the company had an open

mind about acquisitions". He said it would be unlikely to

make any major buys, but was

looking actively in various parts of the world for small-

Mr Orrell-Jones added that

brought in good returns.

ket conditions.

utive, said.

new houses increases.

debated linking with the cable companies but did not act quickly enough. Similarly, BT, now back in talks with Cable and Wireless, has come to regret selling most of its cable franchises. True, it has the most extensive network, but one that is

largely composed of low-capacity copper lines. To work well, services such as video-on-demand need to be hooked into a high-capacity broadband net-work of the sort that the cable companies are close to creating. On that basis, the cable companies are rare commodities. Any company that wants to build

a multimedia business in Britain can no longer afford to ignore them. This is why Deutsche Telekom and AT&T are so in-terested in Videotron. A cable company would provide them with a quick way into the market and a platform to create a business to compete with BT. The impending merger of CableTel and NTL is a variation on the same theme. The two companies can combine a national transmission system with residential access. Think of it as a smaller version of BT.

The cable sector's darkest days may now be behind it. Digging up all those streets is starting to

Queens Moat in a quandary

☐ WE are getting used to having the former walking dead, the Cordiants and WPPs, back among us restored to rude health. But Queens Moat Houses has shown that not every financial restructuring has a

happy ending.
The company is in a quandary. Three years ago it was bust, the shares heading for a long suspension. Last year's debt-for-equity swap still left Queens Moat with El billion-plus of borrowings, and little chance of paying it off through assets sales, as the last property valuation threw up a total worth that was short of £900 million...

The obvious way out, as demonstrated by Cordiant late last year, is a rights issue. But Queens Moat as yet lacks the earnings recovery to buttress such an issue. Last year, but for debt forgiveness associated with the restructuring, would have seen a pre-tax loss. This year, assuming even a 10 per cent rise in operating profits, these will be wiped out by the interest bills. Banking covenants require a pre-tax profit by 1997; this is possible, but any earnings will

be nominal. Unfounded bid optimism has pushed the shares higher of late. Any potential buyer, and several have been mooted, will have to swallow the debt. The most likely outcome is another highly dilutive debt/equity swap, allied perhaps to some disposals. investors please note.

Cut-off point

☐ THE deeply loathed South West Water is freshening up its image with a promise that customers who fail to pay will never be cut off, because this is bad for "family health and well-being". Instead, they are offered debt counselling, and only those that refuse go to court — where they may ultimately be jailed, a process known to be excellent for family health and well-being. Some advice for South West. As other water companies have found, cutting off the supply is actually the easiest way of deal-ing with the majority of non-payers, those too lazy or disorganised to get around to it.

Shake-up at Slough **Estates**

Sir Nigel Mobbs is giving up the role of chief executive of Slough Estates in a management shake-up of the industrial property group, but will remain executive chairman. Roger Carey, joint managing director, is leaving the company while Derek Wilson, also joint managing director, is being promoted to chief executive.

The boardroom reshuffle was announced as Slough revealed a 10.5 per cent rise in profits to £70.7 million, but the value of the investment portfolio is down 3.1 per cent. Slough's net asset value fell from 276p to 266p, and the full year dividend rises 4.9 per cent to 8.5p per share.

Gehe bid referred

The £650 million takeover bid by Gehe, the German drug wholesaler, of Britain's Lloyds Chemists, has been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission by John Taylor, the Competition Minister. The MMC will consider the bid alongside the rival £623 million offer by UniChem, Britain's third-biggest chemist. which was referred to the commission last month.

Packager up

Macfarlane Group (Clansman), the packaging group based in Glasgow, lifted pre-tax profits to £21.2 million last year from £16.3 million in 1994. Turnover was 36 per cent higher at £158.6 million. Raw material prices were higher and acquisitions made a £9.8 million contribution. Earnings rose to 12.03p a share (9.1p). The total dividend rises 24.6 per cent to 3.9p a share, with a final 2.5p due on May 30.

Landfill business sale boosts Blue Circle profit

By Sarah Cunningham

million for its bathrooms busi-

ness. in 1994 the company's

results were depressed by an

exceptional charge of £59.4

million. The company is rec-

BLUE CIRCLE, the building and heating group which last month said it would cut up to ,300 jobs, yesterday reported a pre-tax profit of £263.8 million for last year, com-pared to El84.4 million in 1994. Its results were boosted by a £54 million gain on the sale of its landfill business to South West Water last July. Against this, E55 million was set aside to overhaul its heating business, including £30 million for redundancy payments, and £8

ommending a full-year divi-dend of 12.5p, up from 11.75p last year. Its shares rose 12p to 335p, responding to the company's stated determination to turn its heating business As widely predicted, heating

was its worst performer last year, making an operating



Sir Peter Walters, chairman, with Keith Orrell-Jones

Morrison upbeat on 9.5% rise

WM MORRISON, the wm MORRISON, the supermarket chain, was upbeat on prospects yesterday as it unveiled a 9.5 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £127.1 million in the 53 weeks to February 4 (Sarah Basnall writes). Bagnall writes).

Turnover topped £2 bil-lion for the first time, up from £1.8 billion to £2.1 billion. Ken Morrison. chairman, said: "It is pleasing to state that this was achieved in a period of extreme price competition. We look forward to the future with confidence."

Without the extra week, sales rose 16 per cent with like-for-like sales up 2.9 per cent. The final dividend of 1.125p, payable on May 15, makes a total for the year of I.4p. Earnings per share rose 7.7 per cent to 10.67p. Shares rose 34p to 1544p.

Buoyant Next talks of growth

BY SARAH BAGNALL

LORD WOLFSON, chairman of Next, yesterday said the clothing retailer could use its £170 million cash pile to fund an acquisition. He said that, if the group

handed back surplus cash to shareholders, "we couldn't make a significant acquisition without issuing paper or going to the bank".

He said the group had not found a suitable target but would be interested in buying a business that offered synergies and was one that the Next management understood and could add value to immediately. His remarks came as Next unveiled a 32 per cent leap in profits and a 28 per cent rise in the final dividend, news that sent the shares up 15 եր to 494 եր.

Pre-tax profits rose to a record £141.9 million in the year to January 27, while

trading profits rose 22.4 per cent to £125.3 million, helped by strong performances from the group's 304 stores and its mail order business.

Sales advanced 18.5 per cent to £773.8 million, reflecting a 15 per cent rise in Next Retail sales and a 26 per cent leap in Next Directory sales. The di-rectory attracted 25 per cent more customers last year.

The company said it is pulling out of its Bath & Body Works joint venture with The Limited, of the US. The stores are a Body Shop rival. Next is putting on hold its expansion plans in America but continuing with those for the Far East and Middle East.

The final dividend, due July 1, is being lifted from 6.25p to Sp, making a total for the year of 11.75p, against 9p last time.

Tempus, page 28

Demerger costs less at Thorn

SHARES in Thorn EMI. the music and electronics company, rose 19p to £16.73 after the company said costs for its £7 billion demerger would be around 25 per cent less than expected at £75 million (Alasdair Murray writes).

The company will charge costs, including tax costs of about £25 million and others of around £50 million, as an exceptional in its accounts. Thorn is also making a further £55 million operating charge for restructuring programmes.

Thorn dropped plans to list EM1 in New York but will review the situation next year. The rentals division will be part listed on Nasdaq to allow sharebased incentives for its US workforce. Demerger is now set for August 16.

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29 March 1996

Redland writes down US assets

BY CARL MORTISHED

SHARES in Redland fell yesterday when the building materials group announced that it was writing down the value of its American businesses by £98 million. Weak trading conditions in the UK and overseas, including a sharp decline in the German housing market in the second half, eroded Redland's profits. Combined with the charge against the American businesses, Redland's pre-tax profits fell from

£373 milion to £273 million. The shares fell by 8p, to 384p. The net exceptional charge of £81.9 million includes a £16 million writedown of the US roof tiles business and a £16.4 million gain from disposals, but the bulk of the loss relates to a severe cut in the book value

of Genstar, Redland's Maryland aggregates operation. Robert Napier, chief executive of Redland, said that the business had suffered from the slowdown in the Maryland and Baltimore economy.

Redland expects to an-

nounce next month a deal re-

structuring its European busi-

nesses. Mr Napier said he had

achieved a breakthrough in negotiations with the Braas family, minority shareholders in Redland's German subsidiary. The deal, involving injecting the entire European roofing business into Braas in exchange for cash and an increase in Redland's shareholding to about 60 per cent, "will remove geographical barriers and allow more efficient use of capital", Mr Napier said. Redland is also expected to

announce a buyer for its bricks business next month. The company has four interested parties, thought to include Boral. the Australian group and Wienerberger, of Austria. Mr Napier said that poor

weather in Europe is worsening weak markets. Poor volumes in bricks and tiles in the UK led to a decline in domestic operating profits last

year from 641 million to £35 million. German volumes for concrete tiles fell by 10 per cent. The dividend is down from 19.42p to 16.67p after an unchanged 11.17p final payment.

Tempus, page 28



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BT-Cable and Wireless talks stop market rot

lation and heavy turnover in their shares, BT anti Cable and Wirelesss last night admitted they were back in merger talks.

At the same time, Rod Olsen, finance director of C&W and the man who is filling the breach until the company can find a new chief executive, had dinner with a number of fund managers at the Savoy arranged by Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker. He was no doubt tackled about how such a merger would be conducted. Yesterday, C&W soared a staggering 34p to 5112p and BT jumped 14 p to 348 p. By the close of business, almost 24 million BT shares and 10.5 million C&W shares had changed hands

Early gossip among specu-lators suggested the terms could be three BT shares, plus a special dividend, for every two C&W. That would value C&W at about 560p a share. But a bid by BT would be plagued with difficulties as aborted talks between the two sides earlier this year testified.

IF BT were to bid for C&W, it would also have to make an offer for the outstanding minority in Hong Kong Telecom. which would increase the terms of any offer for C&W by £5 billion. Its also unlikley that the Government would allow BT, which already owns 60 per cent of Celinet, to get its hands on C&W's Mercury One-2-One operation.

There has been talk of a reverse takeover, but with BT capitalised at £21 billion compared with the £10.5 billion Cable is valued at, the terms would take a lot of working out. Both sides appear keen on a get-together, but there are doubts in the Square Mile that the obstacles can be overcome.

The combined turnover of the two companies helped to swell total stock market business to more than a billion shares as the FT-SE 100 index wiped out an early fall of 22 points. In spite of an opening deficit in the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street, the index finished 0.2 points up at 3,672.6.

Confirmation of job losses at United Utilities, the subject of last year's £1.8 billion merger of Norweb and North West Water, lifted the shares 140 to 611p. The new group is to shed a further 1700 jobs, bringing the total to 2,500. This is expected to result in savings of £140 million by the turn of the

P

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Nic Geo P.O



century. It also plans to dispose of Norweb's retail and contracting arm, North West's processing arm, and Norweb's investment in Generation, which should raise around £350 million.

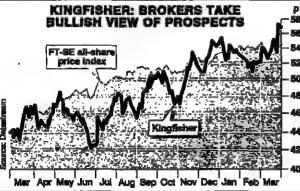
The outline of the savings expected to accrue at United Utilities also sent shares of Hyder, the subject of a merger between Welsh Water and full year to about £150 million. Still responding to Wednes-

Pan Andean Resources, which is looking for oil in Bolivia, fell lip to 70p for a two-day loss of 23p. The group's partner in the Chapare venture, BHP, is expected to issue a report next month. Remember the helter skelter performance of Poseidon in the Seventies? In this instance polite brokers merely describe the downside as limited.

South West Electricity, 18p higher at 752p as 1.7 million shares were traded. Brokers are convinced that similar costs savings can be expected.

The subject of cost also featured at Thorn EMI, with the price rising 19p to £16.73. The group says it anticipates the cost of demerging its music and rental arms will be about £75 million. Thorn intends to seek a listing on New York's from a "sell" to a "hold".

News of a share buy-back sent shares of RJB Mining. Britain's biggest coal produc-



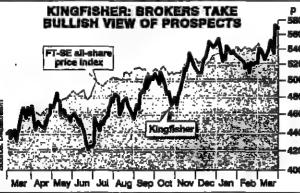
David Jones, managing director of Next, saw shares rise

Nasdaq trading system. An impressive set of full-year figures left Next sporting a rise of 152p to 4942p. Pre-tax profits came in above most forecasts at £142 million, compared with £107 million last time. Brokers have begun raising their forecasts for the

day's better than expected

profits news, Kingfisher rose 18p to 572p. BZW has upgraded its recommendation in the shares from a "hold" to a "buy" and Kleinwort Benson

er, up 39p to 585p. Full-year figures were in line with expectations, showing pre-tax profits up from £16 million to



pressed increased concern about its loss-making

Ashfordby pit. Queens Moat Holdings marked time at 22p unmoved by a by full-year figures showing losses more than halved at £42.4 million. These were the first results since the restructuring of its £1.8 billion debt burden last year.

Full-year figures from Bine Circle Industries, up 12p at 335p, were in line with forecasts. A sharp drop in profit-ability left **Redland** nursing a fall of 8p at 384p.

WM Morrison Supermarkets rose 32p to 1542p. cheered by news that sales had topped £1 billion for the first time. Brokers upgraded profit forecasts for the current year. Booker, the food distributor, rose 13p to 395p after better than expected trading news.

ILP, the Irish packaging group specialising in the computer and electronics market, established a useful premium in first-time trading. Placed at 75p by Teather & Greenwood, the price started 86p and after briefly dipping back to 75 p, ended the session at 88p. a premium of 13p on turnover of 2.65 million shares.

Shares of CentreGold were suspended at 38p. The company published full-year figures and revealed details of a proposed rights issue, but later found itself on the receiving end of a £17 million bid by

GILT EDGED: Prices opened lower reflecting over-night losses among US Treasury bonds. Disappointment stemming from the Bundesbank's reluctance to cut German interest rates saw early losses extended, but a late squeeze enabled the market to close off its low of the day. Dealers said the auction of £3 billion of Treasury 7 per cent 2001 had been absorbed.

In the futures pit, the June series of the Long Gilt touched £1031316 before bouncing back to end the day £1932 lower at E1044 as a total of 57,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues. Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost E2332 at £951516, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 fell £1332 to £1012132. □ NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks were mostly lower at midday, forced into consolidation by a weak tone to the bond trial average was down 24.20

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 5602.68 (-24.20)

	_
	Hong Kong: Hang Seng 11030.58 (-35.99)
	Amsterdam: 50E Index 526.88 (-2.23)
	Sydney: 2236.5 (-23.2)
	Frankfurt DAX2508.44 (-16.98)
	Singapore: 2391.88 (-7.77)
	Brussels:
	Paris: 2019.97 (-10.54)
	Zuricis: SFA Gen
	London:
1	FT 30 Z743.9 (-1.0)
ı	FT 100 3672.6 (+0.2)
]	FT-SE Mkd 250
	FT-5E-A 190 1851.6 (+0.5)
ı	PT-SE Eurotrack 100 1615-40 (-10.96)
1	FT & All-Share 1831.96 (+0.45) FT Non Financials 1953.09 (+1.60)
1	FT Fixed Interest 110.60 (-0.30)
1	FT Govt Secs 91.84 (-0.54)
1	Rargeins 46611
_	Bargains 46611 SEAQ Volume 1003.7m
ı	TISM (Datastron)
Į	11SS 1.5Z31 [+0.0040]
1	German Mark 12516 (-0.0007)
1	Exchange Index 83.3 (-0.1) Bank of England official close (4pm)
1	Bank of England official close (4pm)
-1	£:ECU 1.1900

RECENT ISSUES

RPI _____ 150.9 Feb (2.7%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX ____ 150.2 Feb (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

Easynet Group (100)	122	
First Infor (165)	183	
Fleming Wrid Inc	54	+ 1
Firming Wrid Uts	91	
Freepages (12)	165	+ 1
Fulmar (154)	188	
GT Income Gwth Tt	94	
Hill Sml UK Emg	96	
HUI Sml UK Emg Wt	s 22	
ILP Group (75)	88	
IOC Inti	131	- 2
int Brech Tst C (100)	100	
Life Off Opp (100)	55	+ 1
M & G Equity Cap	221.	
M & G Equity Div	90	
M & G Equity Inc	44	
Macdonald Htl (145)	190	+ 3
Marine & Merc (125)	123	
New Asia Fund	695	
Orange (205)	230':	- 7
Perp Inc Gth Ut (500)	510	
Primary Hith (100)	103	
Raphael Zorn (32)	34	
Schroder UK G Uts	25512	+
Silver Shield (3)	. 34	
Stadium Group (120)	138	
Streamline (190)	175	
Triad Group (135)	183	
Visual Action (185)	254	
Western Select Wis	- 1	
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RIGHTS ISSUES

Abbott Md Vckr (460) 82 Fairway Gp (80) 8 GWR Uts Cv UL 96/01 22

MAJOR CHANGES

FISES:
BLP Group 95p (+10p)
Tibbet & Britten 548p (∸43p)
Parkland 175p (∸11p)
FALLS:
Ayrshire Metal 136p (-12p)
MAID 225p (-10p)
Flitranic Com 305p (-10p)
Domino 419p (-11p)
Dorling Kind 553p (-10p)
Nat West 629p (-11p)
Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

RJB mines a rich seam

hardly evidence of weakness.

Next's critics still have a

target. The company has yet

to find a home for £170

million in cash - up £50

million last year. Capital

expenditure of £40 million

and plans for a personal loan

scheme that could absorb £60 million still leave Next

with substantial liquid funds

earning weak returns.

RJB is not quite a goldmine but it has certainly proved a rich seam. Cries of government giveway over the sell-off are proof enough but the view was different a year ago when critics sniggered that Richard Budge had paid over the odds for the majority of British Coal's English collieries at a time when the coal market was stuck in the

The blunt and upfront Mr Budge has never been shy of banging the drum for RJB. But now people are starting to listen. In the first full figures from RJB, turnover and profit are substantially ahead of those forecast in the prospectus and the reduction in costs is greater than anticipated.

Yesterday's share buy-back is further evidence of the company's confidence but investors will wonder when this seam will

peter out. Further cost savings are constrained by safety requirements.

RIB's inherited contracts with the generators come up for renewal during 1998 when the price of coal will be squeezed. Domestic coal will have to compete squarely with finely priced coal imports and the cheaper fuel, orimulsion.

The wider future of coal is threatened by the generators' continuing romance with gas. The invisible fuel has so far wiped out 19 million tonnes of coal destined for power generation. Over the next three years that figure will rise to more than 30 million as more gas-fired stations come on stream. Currently no generator has plans to build coal-fired plant. RJB is digging fast and furiously in a contracting industry but the odds against it are heavy.

There is a chance of a

sizeable acquisition but the

management is cautious and

opportunities few. There are

hopes of a link-up with GUS.

retailer but it should resist

the temptation to become a

bank. If an acquisition is not

forthcoming, shareholders should be given the option to

invest the cash elsewhere.

Next is a highly successful

Next

DOUBTERS of Next appear to have given up predicting a slowdown in the clothing retailer's rapid growth. Until yesterday, a sparkling set of results from Next would be followed by a ritual self-off.

This year, pessimists were silenced. The change in sentiment reflects a belief that Next is among a clutch of high street winners and will benefit from any upturn in consumer confidence. Increased disposable income, Tessas coming to maturity and building society payouts are expected to improve confidence and spending.

Moreover, Next's margins are unlikely to fall as management believes its pricing ls now competitive.

Sales per square foot are on a par with Marks & Spencer, while a 15 per cent rise in high street sales is THE GOLDEN HOARD

Redland

FOR SOME time Redland tried to shrug off its problems. but overpaying for bricks and quarries leaves a heavy load. Finally, the management called a halt and after some stocktaking. Redland has cut Genstar, its Maryland aggregares business, down to size with an £82 million charge.

Redland is being coy about the before and after book values but Genstar was probably acquired for more than £300 million and analysts reckon its present contribution to profit is little more than £10 million.

More interesting than his-toric blunders is news that Redland may be on the verge of a restructuring of its European roofing businesses with the injection of Redland's operations into Braas, its German subsidiary. The deal hinges on the valuation of Redland's own businesses and the extent to which the Redland access to the German

business's cashilow. Redland generated only £37 million of free cash flow last year, not enough to cover the £83 million dividend.

Braas is Redland's prize asset and a deal with its minority shareholders would create a roofing business with operations across Western Europe. That would allow consolidation of plant and cost-savings as well as a common strategy for new markets in the east. If it works, Redland will be a very different company but investors should read the small print before buying.

OIL shares have been riding high on a surge in the price of the black stuff. Both BP and Enterprise Oil reached new highs on Wednesday but a wider look at the oil market suggests a correction could come quite soon.

Brent is following the sharp rise in the price of West Texas Intermediate, the

benchmark American crude, which was yesterday trading at more than \$21 per barrel for May delivery compared with Brent's \$19.10. The \$2 WII premium is unusually high reflecting the low stock levels in the US after a harsh and long winter and has led to some imports of oil from Europe. At the same time cold weather in Europe has also kept the Brent price moving upwards.

But the oil price curve drops quickly as the contracts move further out. By August WTI is \$3 cheaper per barrel and for Brent the June contract is \$2 cheaper than the \$20.40 price for April deliv-ery. This sharp backwardation reflects fears of Iraqi exports. UN talks bogged down over humanitarian aid for the Kurds but a deal could be agreed at new talks in April and a recent surge in the value of the Iraqi currency suggests the market's concern is well-founded.

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES COCOV | 125.30 | 127.40 | 111.30 | 112.75 | 114.65 | Volume: 98 984-945 May . 949-947 Jul __ 970-969 Sep _ 989 BID Dec _ 1780-1770 Volume 2679 WITH AUGAR (POM Dec _____ 327.0-24.5 MRY ____ 318.0-[7.1 MRY ____ 315.5-14.1 AUS _____ 315.5-14.1 IPE PUTURES (GNI LES GAS OIL Volume: 2:52 BRENT (6.00pm) 18.98-19.00 Aug ... 18.00-18.03 Sep ... 17.38-17.40 LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

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(%) -6.0 PQL0 Scotland:	Zinc Spec Hi Gde (\$/tonne) 1063.0-	
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THE TIMES !!



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DIARY

All in a shorter day's work

SIR Nicholas Goodison, chairman of TSB, was quick to put his name down for the first national "Go Home On Time Day", which is being organised by the charity Parents At Work. Appropriately scheduled for the longest day of the year, midsummer, on June 21, employers and employees are being encouraged to enjoy life as it should be.

Sir Nicholas said: "Burning the midnight oil in the office doesn't necessarily bring the best re-sults. It's the quality of work that matters. We will not get the best out of someone who has no time for family life or the pursuit of outside interests." Howard Davies, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England and a patron of Parents At Work, is another who will go home on time. He cites "children and cricket" as his recreations in Who's Who.



Sir Nicholas: home early

AFTER the Oscars, there's the Tommy's Campaign Parent Friendly Awards, sponsored by Huggies Dummy Award, for the least effort to help young families, went to the outf-town store Children's World. It excelled in unfriendly staff, grubby changing rooms, difficult access to stores and making customers pay for their trollies. Abbey National was voted top rusk for its Lego tables.

Stumped

10 mg -

WHEN Laurence Dillamore worked as director of general insurance at Johnson Fry, until a wrangle with the partners a year ago, he was one of only two MCC members. And because only MCC members could apply for the debenture scheme that part-funded the modernisation Mound Stand at Lords in 1987, Dillamore was prevailed upon to secure pre-

Tony Blair, the Labour leader, is casting doubt on Britain's jobs record by warning of "rampant insecurity", with more than ten million people in cious seats. Now around the renewal date of the Britain experiencing at least debentures. Johnson Fry one spell of unemployment talks all the more sweetly since the 1992 election. The to its old chum, and independent Employment Poli-Dillamore keeps the partcy Institute will say that job ners sweating. growth in Britain has certainly not been spectacular by inter-national standards. Incomes Data Services, the independent

Tight fit

SPARE a thought for Mark Riches, the chief executive of the Sweater Shop, who was in Guildford last weekend for the opening of the 63rd Sweater Shop. Mr Riches had placed the keys of his BMW car in the hands of a valet-parker at the Angel Hotel. He awoke the next day to find his car had been written off as a result of some rather over-enthusiastic parking.

Emerald urn

WORRIED at the thought that their daily pint could be in short supply, milk drinkers could soon be turning to Yakult The Japanese makers of the caramel-coloured liquid. which comes from Irish cows and contains around 6.5 billion "friendly" bugs per 65ml bottle, enjoy a £1 billion turnover. They claim that the health drink is enjoyed by more than 23 million people every day in 15 countries to "help promote a positive internal flora... and there are Yakult 52,000 saleswomen.

MORAG PRESTON



A lesson from Britain in cutting unemployment

Philip Bassett looks at a shift in

contentious at Lille either.

appears to be delivering the

jobs everyone says they want to see. Even Germany, with un-employment now above four

million, and France - both

bastions of the "European"

model of regulated labour mar-

lle, Jacques

now promot-

ing his ideas of

a new social

model for

them at the

and

Europe

the hearts of those enamoured

so-called "social clause" at-

tached to trade treaties, requir-

ing trading countries to

observe certain workers' rights.

At the main pre-Lille meeting

in Paris this month, Britain

1994 % 1995* % 1996* % 1997* %

attitude among OECD countries

6 On hearing

flexibility,

people should

watch their

interviews — including an address to the French CBI in Paris
— Mrs Shephard has already today be arriving in Lille, a been banging the international drum about the UK's job performance. Some countries attending the G7 summit are wary that they will be subjected to more — much more — of the same as Britain extols its approach at the expense of

out of work in the

tries. Leaders and officials from

those seven states will from

tough industrial city in north-

eastern France, to talk about

So what? Two years ago, in

the even tougher US city of Detroit, leaders of the Group of

Seven nations — the US, Japan,

Germany, France, Italy, Cana-

da and the UK - did the same

thing, at a jobs summit convened by President Clinton.

Since then, far from falling,

unemployment in many of the

world's leading countries -

France and Germany in partic-

ular — has started rising again,

making a mockery of the formal target adopted by the European Union, for instance,

of halving its unemployment to

Except, of course, in Britain.

Gillian Shephard, the Employ-

ment and Education Secretary.

says that Britain is "forging

ahead" of the rest of Europe on

the UK down by three quarters of a million since 1992. "Jobs

are being created in Britain."

she says, with some pride,

"because the right conditions

exist for companies to flourish."

nouncement of 1,700 jobs going at United Utilities, hard on the

heels of 1,900 jobs being cut by

Pilkington, Treasury officials

believe that the Government's

reforms of the UK labour mar-

ket will allow UK unemploy-

ment to fall still further from its

present level of 7.9 per cent, to

perhaps below 6 per cent, without fuelling inflation.

Such music to ministers' ears

is coupled with warnings, though, from the OECD and

others, of the social impact of

people being excluded from the

economy in Britain. One such

warning sounded in Brussels

yesterday at the EU's first

European Social Policy Forum.

labour market research body,

says: "While the jobless rate

has declined, UK performance

on job creation is less

In spite of yesterday's an-

5 per cent by 2000.

what to do about it.

world's richest coun-

others, although Whitehall officials insist in their best mandarin manner that British ministers will not do anything so maladroit, though they certainly will make clear what they regard as a distinctive UK success on jobs. The illustration shows the G7 countries' recent unemployment record and projections. Other countries' interest in the British model on jobs is likely to be

high — certain-ly higher than still relatively new Clinton Administration was press ing for coordinated

wallets ? solutions to unemployment based on stimulating demand; supply-side Britain was if not quite completely isolated, clearly far from the job-creation mainstream. Now, two years on, things look rather different.

While the US will call for urge some stimulus of demand. urging other countries to cut their interest rates to stimulate growth, it is expected to take a more middling course this time, tempering its macroeconomic calls with a greater emphasis on education and training, and reorganising

working practices. UK government officials do not see much macroeconomic divergence at the summit, arguing that all the G7 countries now have policies of monetary

opposed the inclusion on the Lille agenda of a discussion on the social clause, supported by Germany and Japan. However, buoyed by falling stability and fiscal readjust

unemployment in Britain, in spite of last month's unexpectment, and do not believe either ed 6,800 rise, and the contin-uing wave of job losses, UK that the claimed deflationary officials insist that agreement is effects — especially in terms of increasing unemployment — of Maastricht convergence will be much more likely than division at Lille, with the Americans. British, French and Germans In Detroit, Robert Reich, the now much closer together on US Labour Secretary, warned jobs than they have sometimes been in the past. Britain, apart from being of people that when they heard the word flexibility, they should watch their wallets. Now, Britain's model of flexible labour markets is the one which

interest to other countries, is itself interested in some other countries' developments, especially the proposals being sketched out in the US by Mr Reich on corporate responsibility on employment. Mr Reich, who has clashed

repeatedly with some of his US Cabinet colleagues and who some say is talking privately kets — are moving towards Britain's stance. Indeed, in his about not wanting to remain in office if President Clinton is reelected in November, will be at Lille together with Ron Brown, the US Trade Secretary. But he dent, who is ed in the G7 meeting, partly because of the emphasis likely to be given to the British route to job success: while he and his advisers acknowledge its impact, they are dismissive about will outline the kind of jobs - and their real economic value - that it is

opening of the inter-governmental conference in Turin Faced with continual downtoday, is expected to use the sizing in US companies, Mr jobs summit to present the Reich is talking instead, in familiar Clinton-Blair terms, of issue of flexible labour markets to the French people. Their mutual gains and responsibilitscepticism about such an apies: of the private sector taking proach triggered a wave of steps which may not immedstrikes against the Chirac Goviately help its own bottom line, ermment's welfare plans at the but which benefit people and end of last year. President Chirac, though, is society more generally. Specifically, he is suggesting tax breaks for companies which also expected to chart the progress of another issue dear to train, retrain and share their profits - much as Mr Blair, in of the interventionist model: the a smaller way, proposed yester-

day in Labour's new training Britain believes that most countries will be more interested in Britain's job creation record than in Mr Reich's theories. Ministers and officials now claim that Detroit largely endorsed the UK's flexible labour markets theory, at a time when the UK economy looked less successful than they claim it now is. If that doesn't quite attune with everyone's memory of Detroit, it is a more likely prediction for the out-come of Lille, Job Summit 2 will not find the answer to unemployment; but Britain is convinced - and, increasingly,

other countries are too - that it

has more of the answer than

11.5 9.3 12.3 11.3 84 3.4 8.2 5.7 6.9 3.1 8.4 8 5.9 6.8

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UNEMPLOYMENT BATE

Undaunted in speeches and Source: OECD * Projection

Canada

France

Italy

USA

Germany

No nostalgia for last of the Bernsteins

f Alex Bernstein is nursing a sore head this I morning, don't he too harsh. Some 200 celebrities and friends toasted his health at the Savoy Hotel last night. ahead of his retirement, today. his 60th birthday, as chairman of Granada Group, the television-to-hotels empire founded by his grandfather more than 70 years ago. For the first time, there will not be a Bernstein on the Granada

Mr Bernstein steps down in favour of Gerry Robinson, who ascends to the chairmanship fresh from doing battle with Sir Rocco Forte, vanquished head of the eponymous hotels-to-catering group. Charles Allen replaces Mr Robinson as group chief executive. Mr Bernstein was well aware that his last annual meeting as chairman might have taken on a sombre tone. "In truth, I never thought we would lose. One can empa-thise with Rocco. It's not much fun having your company taken away from you."

Mr Bernstein will retain a stake of just short of a million shares in Granada, providing a handy retirement income. but has decided against taking the honorary title of president, in the mould of Lord Forte or Lord King. He believes a clean break is best. "I think people who become president are often chairmen who don't want to leave office. I've had a wonderful time at Granada, but after 36 years. 16 of them as chairman, it's time to do something else."

Mr Bernstein left Cambridge with an economics degree in 1959, and struggled to carve a niche in what was very much a family firm. His uncle, Lord (Sidney) Bern-stein, who died in 1993, transformed Granada from a company with a couple of cinemas to a colossus embracing television rentals, motorway restaurants, and TV productions such as Coronation Street

The chairman of

Granada is

bowing out on a high, writes Jon Ashworth

and World In Action. His first job was as assistant manager of the Century cinema at Clapham Junction, now a Tesco supermarket. He missed out on running "the posh one", the nearby Granada cinema, and was soon brought down to earth, "It was quite a culture shock coming from the academic world of Cambridge economics to running a children's mannee

at Clapham Junction." After two to three years, he moved to Manchester to work in television, and spent a few years in production before going "upstairs" into management. "With a name like Bernstein, I didn't have a great deal of choice, I suppose." He moved into TV rentals, later becoming managing director of the rentals operation.

Mr Bernstein has fond memories of his flamboyant uncle Sidney, a man with a deeply litigious streak, and a virulent dislike of employees who were suede shoes. Lord Bernstein once tried to sue Ford for adopting the name Granada for one of its models. "He was not the easiest man to work for," says Bernstein, casting a casual eye over my brogues, "but he was a brilliant businessman with extraordinary vision and courage.

"He was a great one for Manchester, but never actually lived there himself. We were walking there one day. and he spotted a dandelion emerging through a crack in the pavement. He said: 'Look, Alex. Wild flowers growing in the centre of Manchester. Mr Bernstein has been

chairman since 1979, making

him one of the longest-serving chairmen of a FT-SE 100 company. In that time, Granada's turnover has grown from £200 million to £6 billion, although expansion has brought its problems. "We were caught up in the euphoria of the Eighties and bought quite a few companies, but didn't buy wisely or run them very well."

An ill-fated rights issue in 1991 led to the departure, as chief executive, of Derek Lewis, later head of the Prison Service, and the arrival of the much-admired Mr Robinson. It is an appointment of which Mr Bernstein is justifiably proud. "I think choosing Gerwas one of the best things did for Granada. He's one of the outstanding businessmen of the 1990s. Apart from that,

he's great fun to work with."

Mr Bernstein, an avid gardener, is looking forward to pottering around the garden at home in Berkshire (there is also a flat in London). He is a long standing partner in the Waddington Galleries in London, and has bought many contemporary works of art. A keen skier, he confesses to spending more time in restaurants than on the slopes these days. "The trick is still be able to pull up with a flourish."

There will, undoubtedly, be some sadness at the passing of the "Last of the Bernsteins", but nostalgia has little place in the modern world of commerce, as Forte has discovered to its cost. "A family business can't remain that way for too long. It is entirely inappropriate after a certain time."

Mr Bernstein is optimistic that Granada's family origins will not easily be snuffed out. "Granada does have a rejaxed, family feel at the centre, and I believe that Gerry will take it on to even greater things." The timing, he insists, could not be better. "I'm leaving Granada on a high. Purely by luck, I think I've timed my retirement well.



As with his skiing. Alex Bernstein is finishing his run in business with a flourish

BUSINESS SECURITY exhibition

"This promises to become the definitive event of its kind in the UK" Euan Williamson, Group Security Adviser, The Boots Company Plc

Security purchasing is becoming a complex process as companies increasingly face security issues that cross functional boundaries. Security solutions can have profitenhancing as well as profit protecting implications - and solutions often have strategic implications that affect the bottom line. In order to make sound security decisions, it is more important than ever that senior security managers remain well-informed as to the emerging options available to them.

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Seminars

Turning Security into Competitive Advantage An Evaluation of How Corporations Can Use Security In All Its Guises To Gain Competitive Edge - And Save Money

Contingency Planning: How Will Your Company Cope When It All Falls Apart? Internal Barriers to Effective Security - Getting

Your Organisation Talking
Riding the Security Risks to Your Data Centres
and Computer Networks
Workplace Violence - Designing Safe and Secure Work Environments

Regulation - In-House or Contract Manned Guarding?

miner speakers inleuded Heads of Security at: British Airways, British Airports Authority, Rolls-Royce, AT Industries, DEC, Safeway Stores, Woolworths, Argos, House of Fraser, Chase Manhattan Bank, printernial Union, Prudential and other leading blue-chip UK companies.

BUSINESS SECURITY

London, 23rd - 24th October 1996

Supported by THE

Further information from Oakleigh Fischer on 0171-727-7380

BUSINESS LETTERS

Chartered surveyors come under pressure from banks would suggest that chartered

From Mr Ian V. Oddy Sir, In your business pages Bankers driven to risk new crisis", March 27) you refer to the bankers' fear that they are being driven by intense competition to take unacceptable risks that will trigger the next banking crisis.

I have recently given two lectures on risk management to other chartered surveyors, one meeting in Birmingham and another in London. In Birmingham I was told of

From TH Hughes-Davies

Sir, It is good to know that in

Grangemouth, BP has star-

ted debottlenecking the ma-

jor ethylene cracker (BP

annual report and accounts

Can we look forward to it

dedoubledutching the man-

1995, page 19).

Dedoubledutching BP's annual reports

pressure being applied to chartered surveyors by building societies who required the surveyors to increase their mortgage valuations. In London I was told of similar pressure being applied to chartered surveyors but this time by banks. In both cases domestic property was involved.

Taking unacceptable risks was a contributory cause of the last banking crisis. Through your paper I

agement babble which has

crept into its annual report?

T. H. HUGHES-DAVIES,

Yours faithfully

Slades Cottage,

Fordingbridge,

Breamore.

Hampshire.

surveyors communicate with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors if they are being subjected to such Yours faithfully, IAN V ODDY

St Ouintin Chartered Surveyors 71 Queen Victoria Street, EC4.

marketing men spend it. Yours faithfully, MARY ANDERSON, Financial Controller. Letters to the Business Cristel Graphics, Dunkirk Street. Halifax.

section can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.

Funding Lloyd's reconstruction and renewal From T. C. M. Powell

The real

From Mary Anderson

Sir, "Let the marketing director get in the picture" (Business

letters, March 27). Mr Gee -

get real! The finance director

controls the company income:

picture

Sir, I have read with great interest the letters from various Lloyd's names. I calculate that if R and R succeeds, 1 I am, Sir. shall have contributed about 10 per cent of my total annual average premium income over the past four years to the two

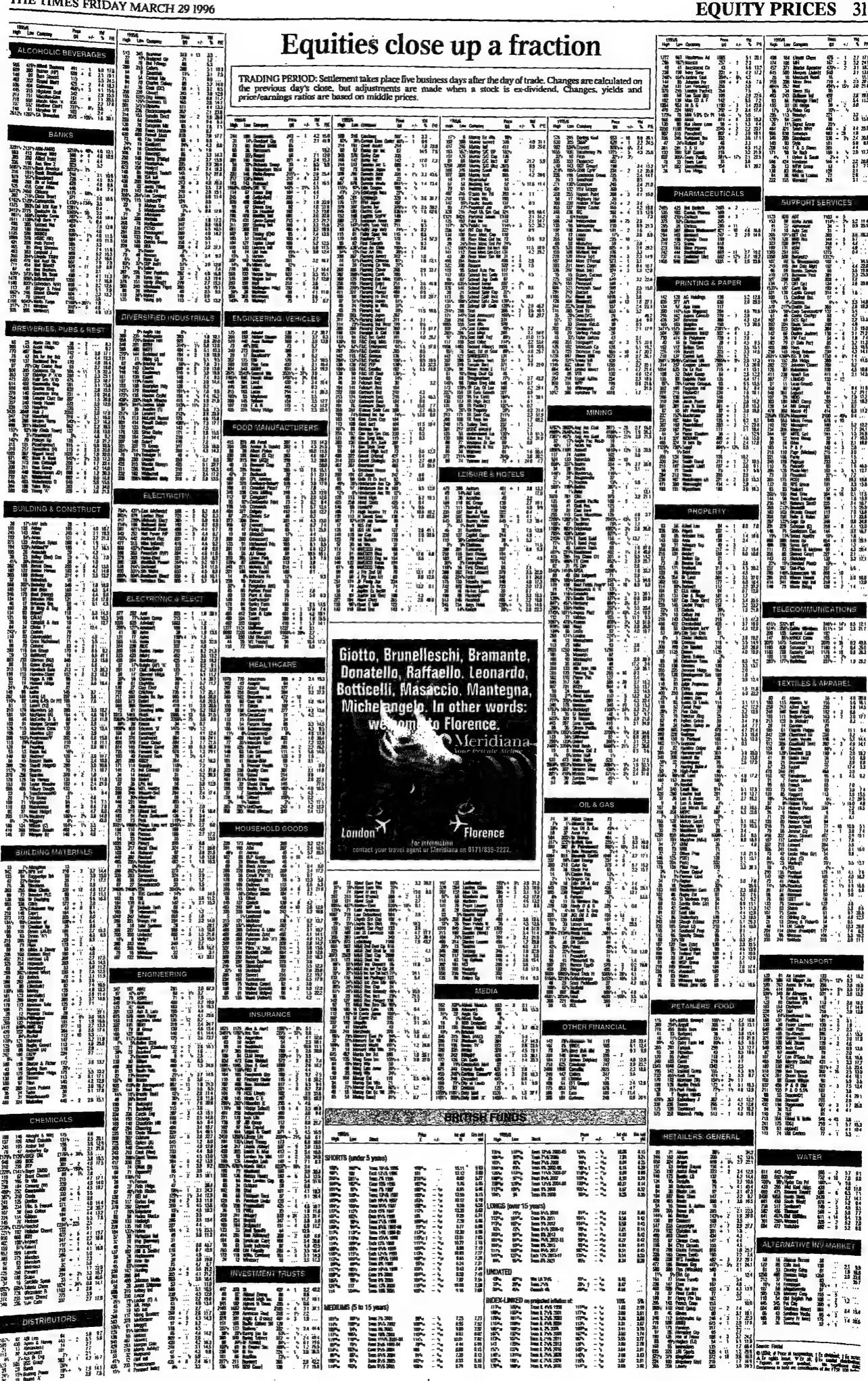
levies and have in addition incurred losses. I do not believe that managing agents have contributed on this scale.

T. C. M. POWELL, Armathwaite, Carlisle.

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Sall Bay +/- Sall Bay +/- S	Set Bay ++ Th	Sell Buy +/- % Sell Buy +/- %	561 Bry - 10 011 922 - 055 561 St	Sel Bo + 10 145	Sed Bin + 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
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حكدًا من الأصل



Tellement in the second of the

Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent, introduces a three-page report on an improved airport that is lifting hopes on the South Coast

Take off for the runway of the future

Churchill

even based

his official

plane there

wick airports fill to overflowing, airfreight companies and business travel arrangers are seeking new, convenient, chean and efficient runways and terminals in the south of

The Government has ruled out the building of a new airport on a greenfield site, so any expansion must come from existing airfields. They must be capable of providing a safe haven for the new generation of long-range jets as well as a good connecting hub for business travellers.

Such an airport is Bourne-International. Its potential was quickly recognised by the coach company National Express, which last year spent £7.2 million on buying a 999-year lease from two local councils.

The airport currently employs 150 people and generated a £5 million turnover last year. The lease includes almost 1,000 acres of land, some of it already devoted to light

BOURNEMOUTH

INTERNATIONAL

s Heathrow and Gat- industry — some 2,500 people are employed on the site as a whole. The airport came with a £750,000 air-safety radar system already installed, and with X-ray screening at each of the terminal's three check-in

National Express immediately decided to extend the runway from 1.8 km to 2.2 km

so that it would accommodate any new jets that Some people

who live near by are worried that noisy night-time freighters may

disturb their peace. The airport says it is doing all it can to minimise noise and pollution. Most local people approve of the airport extension, seeing in it the generation of new jobs for the region.

An opinion poll of travel agents showed that 80 per cent of local people would fly from tions were available. Already there is evidence that charter airlines want to move in to Bournemouth and fly holidaymakers from an airport near their homes, rather than ask them to travel to Gatwick, Cardiff or Southampton.
Thomson has decided to

upgrade its charter flights to Palma to a Britannia Airways

290-seat Boeing 767-200, instantly adding 3,500 package holidays from Bournemouth to Majorca alone for the programme. Unijet will use

Boeing 767 in the first non-stop transatlantic flights from the airport when Bath Travel operates tours to Orlando, Florida, on May 30 and October 6. And Airtours will operate an additional Tenerife series from Bournemouth International for its Golden Years winter programme after the success of recent day trips to Prague

Bournemouth since 1958 and. as Palmair Flightline, is now the airport's single most important tour operator and charter airline customer. This year it will carry some 35,000 passengers to destinations all over Europe on behalf of the Crystal, Phoenix and Palmair holiday companies.

Bournemouth International - better known as Hurn, after the nearby village - has been at the heart of the development of British aviation for a long time. It was opened in 1941 and was one of the busiest RAF stations on the South Coast during the war. Winston Churchill based his official plane at the airport.

Hurn was officially "demobbed" late in 1944 and placed under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. One of its proudest moments was in 1946, when Pan American Airways made the first scheduled passenger-carrying transat-lantic flight with a Lockheed Constellation, flying from Newfoundland via Ireland.

When Heathrow was still known as "London Airport" and used tents as a terminal, Hurn was in full operational

Concorde's nose cone was manufactured at the airport and well-known British aircraft, such as the Varsity, Viscount and the BAC I-II. were built there. A BA Concorde will drop on to the new extended runway on April 21 to pay its compliments.

The Civil Aviation Authority has its College of Air Traffic Control at Bournemouth, plus two examining units on the airport site. It flies staff from all over the world to an airport known internationally by its three-letter code of BOH.

ill it succeed is the long term? If, increasingly like y. Heathrow's fifth terminal is turned down, and if the predicted growth in air travel takes place, it seems inevitable that it will grow rapidly. The helicopter services or air taxi operations which can fan out from Bournemouth to the major industrial centres will enable businessmen to travel much more quickly than by conventional methods.

Cargo companies are probaone at the congestion in the major airports because they need to be able to move fresh produce fast and to distribute it quickly to the main centres population. Bournemouth International Airport will help them to do that.



Peter Bath, the chairman of Bath Travel Palmair, welcomes a passenger to Bournemouth International Airport

Ready and waiting for action

Della Mason

on the planes converted for

military use

Dassault Falcon 20s. equipped with the latmouth International Airport. The jets, used for Royal Navy and RAF training, are owned by FR Aviation (FRA) which, in 12 years at Bournemouth, has become a world-market leader in the modification of civil aircraft for high-technology special-mission purposes.

FRA has also recently been awarded a £25 million Ministry of Defence contract to install sophisticated operational equipment in RAF aircraft. The company, part of the Cobham Group, brought in the Falcon 20, a French executive let, and fitted underwing pylons, to which are attached electronic-warfare training pods.

The refit was done under the Government's Private Finance Initiative, and FRA can borne training service with electronic warfare techniques at far less expense than a government can when operating its own fleet. Now the French and German armed forces are looking at this costeffective solution.



Dassault Falcon 20s at Bournemouth: the Royal Navy and RAF use Falcons for training

FRA also operates a targettowing service in support of weapons systems operated by air. land and maritime forces. This covers visual and radaraimed guns, and sea-skim-ming missiles.

The company employs 500 men and women, from engineers to pilots and cress, plus office suff at its Bournemouth headquarters. It trains its own the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, operates a fleet of maritime patrol aircraft, providing surveillance over many of Britain's seafishing areas.

The company has had this responsibility since 1982. Spe-

cially equipped Pilatus Britten-Norman turbine Is-landers and Dornier 228-200 aircraft were modified for this job. This has enabled the RAF imrod aircraft to be withdrawn from fisheries surveil-

In association with Serco, FRA has a large facilities management side to its business. The company manages fields, in Scotland and Wales. It also services and maintains aircraft used by the Queen -now renamed Number 32 Squadron, based at RAF Northalt.

The company is also expanding: it has a joint venture in France (AvDef), another being formed in Germany and a third in Malaysia. Richard Rhodes, FRA's

marketing director and a former test pilot, says: "The UK has pioneered the path to providing total airborne training to meet the highest requirements. And the rest of the world is looking to us as they. too, are trying to cut their able to bring in additional work to our maintenance and conversion workshops, with rather larger aircraft from

We are keen to do so to provide more high-tech employment in the area."

حكذا بن الأصل

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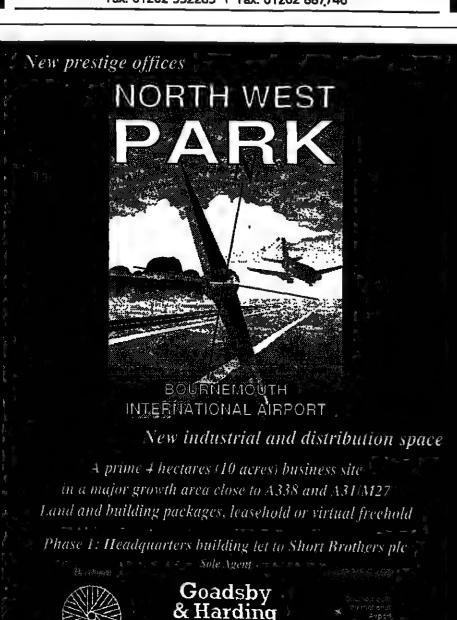
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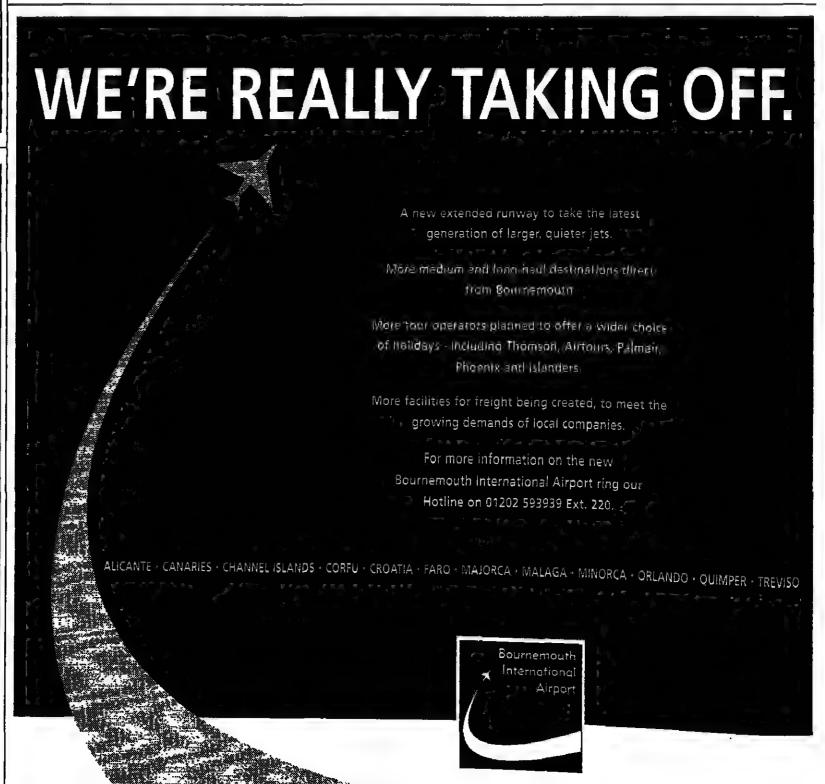
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On the buses . . . and the flight paths

Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent, on the

ational Express. the new owner of Bournemouth Inport, has emerged as one of the most powerful players in the brave new deregulated world of British public

transport. Sold by the Government to a management buyout team in 1988 for £12 million, it is now valued on the stock market at more than £450 million. At the time of privatisation it was a long-distance domestic coach operator. Eight years later, it has a finger in virtually every pub-lic transport pie, while its coach network extends from Killarney to St Petersburg

and Aberdeen to the Aegean. The company now owns two airports - the other is East Midlands, for which it paid £27.1 million in 1993. It also has bus companies in the West Midlands and the North East, a Polish coach company, the Euroline international coach service and a 17 per cent building of a successful road, rail and air empire

share in London & Continental Railways, the consortium that will shortly take over the running of Eurostar trains. The company had made an

aggressive play for some of the juicier franchises emerging from the rail privatisation programme. Thwarted in the first round of franchises, it was named yesterday as the preferred bidder for the Gatwick Express service, regarded as one of the plums of the rail network. National Express has thus seen off the challenge of Richard Branson's Virgin Group as well as a Gatwick Express management-employee buy-out team.

National Express is also the preferred bidder for the Mid-land Main Line. The Office of Fair Trading is likely to look at the fact that the company runs coach services to destinations served on the line, which runs from St Pancras station, London to Leeds via Leicester. Nottingham, Derby and Shef-lield. Adam Mills, the deputy chief executive of National Express, says that as a concession to the OFT he has

'Two airports form the final division of

the company'

pledged to maintain all coach and train services and not to

The company's plans for Gatwick Express include more regular night-time services, a check-in for passengers with hand luggage only, and new trains to replace the ageing former InterCity rolling stock on the route.

However, its first involvement with rail travel will come not through the domestic train franchises but through its participation in London & Continental, which is expected to take over running Eurostar on April I. National Express's role in the consortium is to overhaul the much-criticised ticket distribution arrangements.

National Express operates the British and Dutch part-ners in the Eurolines longdistance coach consortium. With its traditional destinations of Brussels and Paris under attack from Eurostar, Eurolines is opening up to cities in the South of France, Italy and Central and Eastern

glamorous end of the bus market, its local domestic services, that is taking National Express into the transport big league. It paid £224 million for West Midlands Travel (WMT) last year, and the new subsidiary contributed £24.7 million of operating profits during the last financial year. With its other bus company in the North East, National Express is the UK's

fourth biggest bus operator. The final division of the company is formed by its two airports. Mr Mills, a former City adviser to management buyout teams, foresees strong growth for all parts of National Express's rapidly expanding transport empire.

As the Government's programme of transport deregulation and privatisation unfolds and disillusionment with the private motor car grows in line with traffic congestion, it would appear that National Express has timed its diversification well.



Well-timed diversification: Adam Mills, deputy chief executive of National Express

PILOT TRAINING

ir Alan Cobham. founder of Bournemouth International Airport, used to run a "flying circus", piloting his own biplane and looping the loop in mini air displays over Bournemouth, Della Mason writes.

The pilots trained these days at the town's European Coll-ege of Aviation may not be allowed to indulge themselves in quite so flamboyant a fashion, but they are no less enthusiastic about flying. To achieve their goal they will remortgage their houses, take out large bank loans and give up apparently lucrative and safe careers.

There is, of course, another motive. Commercial pilots can command £50,000 a year and as the economy improves, there are jobs to be had.

The college's partners, SFT Aviation and the Professional Pilot Study Centre (PPSC) have, respectively, trained more than 3,000 commercial pilots and tutored some 10,000 commercial pilot students.

The commercial pilot training course begins four times a year, with a class of up to 16 students aged 18 and upwards from all over the world. This year they are each paying



At the simulator. Nick Pittaway, aged 22, took out a 25-year loan for his pilot training

£37,400 plus VAT, less the NVQ grant which enables students to claim back 24 per cent or 40 per cent, according to their tax status.

"When prospective pilots come to us, we hold a one-day assessment," says Colin Green, the college's director. "For those who need it, we also offer financial suid-me."

Once a prospective pilot has been accepted, it is heads down. Three months of intensive training at ground school are followed by three equally intensive months of flying in

Florida. Then it's back? to Britain for seven months of combined ground school and flying, plus examinations and ilight tests.

Today, former graduates fly for British Airways, Virgin Atlantic and many other international airlines.

The college's tutors include former RAF instructors, Civil Aviation Authority flight examiners and commercial pilots. PPSC prepares students for the written examinations and supplies correspondence

The Red Arrows have a close connection with Professional Air Training, a pilot flight training school run by Anthony Mollison. Adrian Thurley, for example, was flight leader of the Arrows for three years before training for his Instrument Rating examinations at the school, which has been on the airport for eight years. Approved by the CAA to run courses for the

Basic Commercial Pilots Li-

cence, the school also trains

businessmen to fly their own

executive planes.

n 1983 the jet-engined supercar Thrust II, driv-en by Richard Noble, rocketed to 633.46 mph in the Nevada desert, it was a new world land speed record — a success conceived and engineered at Bournemouth, Del-

la Mason writes.
Richard Noble trained as a pilot at Bournemouth Flying Club, and it was there that the Thrust II team finalised their plans with John Ackroyd, the car's designer, the engineers, sponsors and driver. The car was given a trial run and static tests at the airport,

Today the man who headed that team, Ken Norris, runs a family business with his wife Marjorie and sons William and John on the airport site. Anglo American Airmotive



Flashback: Norris, left, Noble and Ackroyd in 1982

services aeroplane engines and acts as sole UK distributor of the new Piner, an American business aircraft. It is also the UK's main supplier

of Piper parts and main servicing and warranty

Mr Norris's office is filled

with mementos of land and

speed record. "It was a trage-dy," says Mr Norris. "I liked and respected Donald normously."
Today Mr Norris's family

business also owns A&G Aviation Ltd. which runs the Bournemouth Flying Club as a proprietary club.

water speed records, from

paintings to model cars. As an

aircraft designer and aero-

nautical engineer interested in the dynamics of speed and

thrust, he was introduced to speed pioneer Donald Camp-

bell in the 1950s through his

brother Lewis, a marine engi-

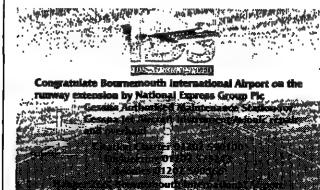
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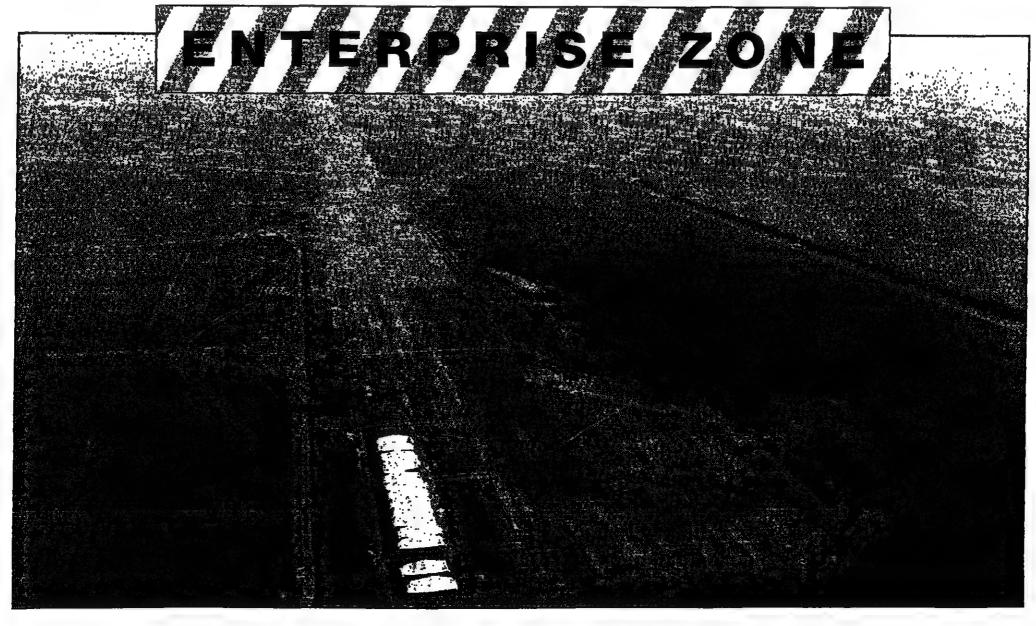
him as a designer.
Campbell was killed on Lake Coniston in January.

1967, after topping 300 mph in

an attempt on the world water









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NATIONAL EXPRESS WE GO FURTHER TO BRING YOU CLOSER



ANT MICHAEL MARC RFOLINE

ETLINE POLSKI EXPRESS **Delia Mason** reports on the

efforts of the airport management

to allay residents' fears

longer runway al-lows a speedier, quimodern planes make less noise than their forebears. That is what the experts say. but the fears of residents living under Bournemouth's flight path have yet to be completely

Douglas Wilson, the managing director, and his team have been explaining aeronautical and engineering facts at meetings with local people. The residents of Burley, a village in a conservation area six miles northeast of the airport, are in the flight path of the extended runway. Houses there can fetch £1 million.

Mr Wilson says: "I have listened to everyone and we have monitored noise. We are looking at a proposal to take aircraft up to 2,000ft rather than 1,500ft."

Ron Orton, who represents Burley on the New Forest District Council, has been at each of these meetings as a vital part of the Burley Action Committee. "The ball," he says, "is in the airport's court and it and the Civil Aviation Authority are looking at other proposals. We hope for a change in the flight path so that it does not come directly over Burley. We have asked that planes do not overfly the village except when absolutely

necessary."
Russell Lucas, chairman of Hurn Parish Council, says that local people are particularly worried about night flights. "In the daytime, the residents do not mind," he says. "But if there is any increase in night flying, noisy night-time engine testing or using aeroplanes with outdat-

ed engines, we shall protest." He adds that residents approve of the "whispering jet" used by Bath Travel, the tourist firm. The parish council has a council member on the Airport Consultative Committee monitoring events. Mr Lucas says: "We will not be walked over regarding noise

Between a quarter and a third of the airport's 950 acres of heathland are sites of special scientific interest. The airport company is trying to ensure that rare species are protected - these include the Dartford warbler, the nightjar, the sand lizard and the smooth snake, and, on the nearby Moors River, dragonflies and butterflies. The unusual heath grasshopper is also found. One runway is being shortened to protect these species.

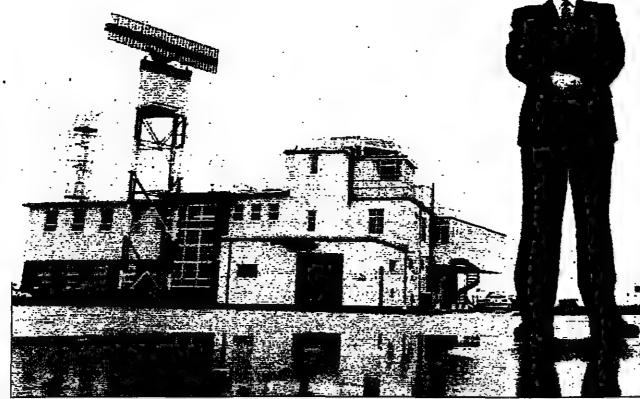
The areas encompassed by Bournemouth airport are described as wildlife habitats of international importance. This is because so many heathlands, not only in Britain but also in northwest Europe, have been lost.

Karl Cradick is associate director of Terence O'Rourke, the Bournemouth consultants who prepared the airport's planning application, approved in December 1993. The application was accompanied by a full environmental statement, he says. This considered the effects of the runway works comprehen-

sively in consultation with a

wide range of public, private and voluntary interests. "Aircraft noise was a prime area of interest. However, by using quieter aircraft and the adoption of noise-minimilisation techniques on take-off. we are confident that the improved runway will make the airport quieter in future than it has been in the past."

102,000 ATMs (air traffic movements) a year, has always been one of Britain's busiest airports. Seventy-two per cent of ATMs are flight training, 11 per cent regular charter-freight services and the rest passenger aircraft.



Target for complaints: Douglas Wilson, the airport manager, has been holding meetings with local residents

Vampires and Gnats on the wing



Restoration project: Eric Hayward stands in front of a Hawker Hunter aircraft at the Jet Heritage Collection

awker Hunters, Me-

teors. Vampires and Gnats are among the

"I was at Hawker's building

Hunters, Gnats, Harriers and

trained at RAF Cranwell, flew

with the RAF and then set up

planes flying again.

A resort for the well-travelled

LOCAL INDUSTRIES

ournemouth Tourism sees the opening of the new large airport runway as good news for holidaymakers, and for the 50,000 foreign students from the Continent and the Far East who visit the town all year round to learn English at the local language schools, Della Ma-son writes.

A spokesman for Bourne mouth Tourism said its aim is to explode the myth that Bournemouth is a place mainly for the elderly. Hotels are now promoting special rates for "family rooms" and last year a five-week Kids Festival was launched.

"This is a university town for young people," the spokes-man added. "It has changed very dramatically. We feel the airport will help this influx of travel and trade.

The expanded runway will be a boon, too, for Bournemouth International Centre, one of the largest conference

centres in the country. On the airport site there are dozens of small and mediumsized companies, all aircraftrelated and all eager to expand. The site is brimming with high-tech engineering and servicing facilities, charter lines, private airline fleets, training warplanes, executive jets, air display fleets and companies which fit out the interiors of planes.

An airport may not seem the most likely venue for a board meeting, but Source Aviation, led by Don Wood, operates a fleet of BAe 125 eight-seater lets which caters for board members. Business people can hire an executive jet and fly in colleagues for a meeting, saving time and the cost of a hotel. he business is proving to be highly popular.

Source Aviation also runs the world's largest privately owned jet formation display team. Its fleet of nine vintage De Havilland Venoms and Vampires are flown by test pilots from the RAF and the Red Arrows. The fleet performs at airshows such as Biggin Hill, and at RAF open days. It is presently negotiating a display at the Monaco Grand Prix. The planes are all serviced at its Bournemouth engineering facility.

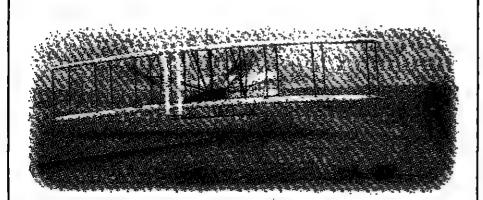
The Red Arrows themselves are never far away from Bournemouth. The team uses the airport's centres to augment its RAF training as it steps into the world of commercial airlines. The summer "across the beach" display always delights tourists.

Orchestras, pop stars and football teams are catered for by European Aviation Air Charter's fleet of 22 BAC I-lls. Manchester United. Eric Clapton and the trade mission to Saudi Arabia with Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, have all been recent

The I-lis — 104-seaters, originally built at Bournemouth by the British Aircraft Corporation are now home again. They are maintained at Bournemouth and leased to other operators for holiday charters.

IDS Aircraft (named after lan Sutherland, the owner) is one of Britain's two main authorised service centres for the Cessna Citation aircraft. The firm has been in business for about 20 years, first at Heathrow and now in Bournemouth. These small executive jets are highly popular in Europe: there are 2,000 in operation across the globe. IDS's centre, one of seven in Europe, concentrates on servicing and warranties.

Normalair-Garrett, part of the Westland Group and now owned by GKN, has a workforce of L20 people at Bournemouth. It manufactures environmental control and life-support systems for the aircraft industry — the controls that allow planes to fly, pressurised, at high



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AIR MUSEUM

aircraft from the late 1940s and 1950s that will be part of and quite informal. We enjoy talking about planes." In a letter to Mr Hayward, King Husain wrote: "I have the Air Flying Museum to be opened next year by the Jet Heritage Charitable Trust at Bournemouth International been most impressed by all I saw . . . There are in our world Airport, Della Mason writes. a few who care, as do one's

friends, for what is a part of The enthusiast behind the venture is Eric Hayward, aviation history and a beautiwhose career in engineering perfectly qualifies him to ful part of it." There are, however, some transform the shell of a jet missing parts of aviation histnto a working flying machory. Mr Hayward is partico ine. These planes are his life. larly eager to find an early jet,

Hawks for 27 years," he says. This skill has earned Mr Hayward a host of loyal ying in his main bangar supporters, enthusiasts and workshop is the cigarshaped body of a owners, who will spend up to £100,000 to get one of these Supermarine Swift jet fighter. one of only four left in the Among those who share his world. Mr Hayward would like to work on this aircraft for enthusiasm for jet planes is King Husain of Jordan, who the museum, but a busy

where, has meant that busithe Royal Jordanian Air Force in his homeland. He commisness has to take precedence. sioned Jet Heritage to find and restore some of each of He is now seeking a sponsor to help this project along. the jet planes that served in the Jordanian force. The fin-Mr Hayward hopes the museum will enhance the ished aircraft will end up in a museum in Amman. "King reputation of Sir Frank Whittle the British inventor. "We Husain has also agreed to should remember that it was become the royal patron of our Jet Heritage Museum an Englishman who invented the iet engine. It changed the here in Bournemouth," Mr shape of aviation for ever and Hayward says. "He flies in we should be proud of it." sionally to see the planes. ● Jet Heritage Charitable Trust: It's always very pleasant...

from Germany and else-





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OPERA!

The Royal Opera has ended up with an Arabella cast of formidable strength, despite a hiccup or two



OPERA 2

The National Youth Music Theatre's new Threepenny Opera is high on musical values, but low on laughs





CONCERT

At the Albert Hall, Bryn Terfel steps in to help to save the RPO's performance of La Damnation de Faust



■ DANCE

Scottish Ballet proves the wisdom of its decision to hire Mark Baldwin as its resident — choreographer

MUSIC AND OPERA: A dream cast shines at the Garden; Brecht without focus; Terfel wins a devilish triumph

Cheryl blossom time

Arabella Covent Garden

ll's well that ends well: after one or two hiccups the Royal Opera has ended up with an Arabella cast of formidable strength — at least in the upper reaches. It was hard to believe that Cheryl Studer was singing the title role for the first time on Wednesday, so relaxed and confident did she appear. Her voice is, of course, perfect for it, sweetly silvery in the upper reaches, but with a warm, coppery colour showing through in the middle register, like the best Sheffield plate.

But it was the wealth of insight she brought to her delivery of Hofmannsthal's words that suggested she had been singing the role for years: that, and extremely clever husbanding of breath in the long, ecstatic lines. She let fly only sparingly—and hence to grand effect in the first and third finales—and may risk more as she grows into the part: this was an astounding first attempt, and it can only get better and better.

She was fortunate to have so experienced a partner as Wolfgang Brendel. His juicy Heldenbariton, expanding excitingly the higher it goes, is again — perfect for Mandryka, and he presented a veritable volcano of a man; big-hearted, volatile, slightly mad around the eyes. The way he supported Studer as she negotiated that treacherous second verse of the folksong love duet, right at the top of the stave, was the mark of a true collection.

The third jewel in the cast was Christiane Oelze as Zdenka. The hypercritical might ask for more weight of tone, but her singing was sweet and true, and her bodylanguage simply heart-rend-



Perfect partners: Wolfgang Brendel as Mandryka and Cheryl Studer in the title role of Arabella at the Royal Opera House

ing. Zdenka is, of course, the most interesting character in the opera, and Oelze knows and is worthy of it. Anne. Howells's dizzy Adelaide, all fluttering hands and darting eyes, is a miracle of wit; she and Gillian Knight's purselipped; Fortune Teller get the opera off to the best possible start Lillian Watson, celebrat-

sounded barely that age as the Fiakermilli.

There is some miscasting and undercasting lower down. Herbert Lippert's Mozart-scale Matteo does not quite work in a house this size, and the three Counts are light on dramatic and vocal presence. Some crudities have crept into the 30-year-old production, including a Mills & Boon light-

ing effect for the love duet and a supernumerary busily eavesdropping on the intensely private finale. Gentlemen conversing with hands in their pockets, or sitting down while ladies stand — I know these things are not important any more, but if you are going to do Arabella as a comedy of period manners, then you may

Mark Elder certainly gets Strauss's score right in the pitche appears to be flowing along with the music's natural shape, but is of course controlling that flow with quiet determination. It is very clever to suggest the former while effecting the latter. The orchestra played well.

RODNEY MILNES

THE dread five-letter word may appear in the title, but The Threepenny Opera is of course a play with music that is incidental in both senses of the word, Rodney Milnes writes. Yet without that music, Berrolt Brecht's free adaptation of The Beggar's Opera—here rightly credited also to Elisabeth Hauptmann—would be little more than a footnote in the history of 20th-century theatre in general and Brecht's output in particular. Thanks to Kurt Weill, it merits a whole chapter to itself, and since the National Youth

Music Theatre's production is decisively music-led. I do not feel too guilty about not being a drama critic.

Alison Berry and her eager band really relish the inimitable tang of Weill's instrumentations, complete with Hawaiian guitar for the Tango Ballad and a wheezy, authentically recalcitrant harmonium. Her tempos are nicely judged and wittily nuanced, and she has worked hard to get the best possible singing from the young cast: Jessica Watson (Polly) has an impressive voice and confident pro-

jection (crisper consonants

Mack's blunt knife

The Threepenny Opera

Lyric, Hammersmith

Laurence Taylor managed Macheath's tricky numbers with enviable aplomb. In the context of such musical expertise, it was odd that Berry sanctioned turning Peachum's little song in Act III into a chorus number — a big mistake.

It made one a little shy to read in the programme that Mark Pattenden's production, which opened at last year's Edinburgh Festival, had meanwhile been taken to New York thanks to the (misdirected?) generosity of NYMT's patron. Andrew Lloyd Webber. It is a curiously unfocused staging in which the expert

musical guidance has by no means been matched in other; departments: the actors have not been shown how to deliver. Brecht's lines and get laughs; — and without laughs The Threepenny Opera can seem,

Threepenny Opera can seem, awfully dour and long.

There are elaborate sets that, take ages to change, requiring orchestral reprises to covery stage activity—heaven knows, what Brecht would have said. The Otto Dix monocle lady, sings Mack the Knife and, presides over the action, but the beggars' placards have been updated; yet the directory steps back from underlining, the way these interwar works are becoming less and less, period pieces (compare Sam, Mendes's scintillating version)

at the Donmar).

The Peachums and the Browns are quite rightly nice, middle-class business people, but who is Macheath? The focus desperately needs tighty ening, and an eyebrow or two must have been raised on Broadway, doing the young company few favours. Natural, talent, of course, shines through, I enjoyed Kevin, Pamplin's naively eager Fich, and James Capewell's daffy, Brummie Jake.

The better Devil you know

ANYONE frustrated by Bryn Terfel's non-appearance in the Royal Opera's Arabelia will be doubly frustrated to have missed his unscheduled appearance at the Albert Hall, replacing Samuel Ramey as Mephistopheles in the Royal Philharmonic's La Damnation de Faust.

He was but one of four major substitutes in Tuesday's line-up. On top of the conductor Valery Gergiev's cancellation because of illness, the orchestra had to contend with the withdrawal of all three principal soloists, and it is astonishing that the concert went ahead so well.

It helped to have Philippe
Auguin on the podium. He conducted with a cool authority that did not preclude passion. The orchestral set

Damnation of Faust Albert Hall

pieces went with idiomatic brio and, some dubious trombone interpolations apart, early lapses of ensemble were soon forgotten as the performance gained pace.

Berlioz's Goethe-inspired légende dramatique is a brilliant sequence of musical sketches, not an opera as some have tried to prove: Auguin's strength was his attention to vivid detail, and he left it to each listener to invent his or her own narrative.

Although the RPO was unable to supply any French singers, all sang in good French, none better than David Rendall as Faust. His plangent tenor tone and carressing way with Berlioz's lines were a rare pleasure. Thereof was singing his firsh Berlioz Mephistopheles, but after a run as Nick Shadow in The Rake's Progress, he was well inside the diabolical charqueter. He scaled down his voice to smooth-tongued effecting the early scenes and develones.

ence as the evening went on.

Ann Murray was an affecting Marguerite, but Jeremy White was unable to make much of Brander. The alert ladies of the Royal Choral Society and Brighton Festival Chorus outshone the men, who, as tavern drinkers, appeared to be on nothing stronger than Diet Fanta.

oped a more menacing pres-

JOHN ALLISON

Kiss the girls and make them fly

Since launching himself on the independent cir-cuit in 1992, the former dancer Mark Baldwin has made great strides as a choreographer. His work for his own company has become increasingly more assured, versatile and musically ambitious. Audiences naturally gravitate towards his sly humour and easy technical fluency. And despite the fact that he spent ten years as a dancer with Rambert Dance Company, Baldwin's background is sufficiently diverse — from classical ballet to Cunningham - to ensure that he has a wide movement vocabulary at his disposal.

Last year the Scottish Bellet snapped him up as their resident choreographer. If Ae Fond Kiss (the first result of that new relationship) is any indication, it was a clever move on the part of Scottish Ballet's director, Galina Samsova.

Baldwin uses the Divertissemento from Stravinsky's Le Baiser de la Fée for his 25-minute curtain-raiser to the company's production of La Sylphide. Like Sylphide, Ae Fond Kiss is one for the girls. They tease, charm and tantalise, and the men lick at their heels like adoring puppies.



Ae Fond Kiss, featuring Nicci Theis and Rupert Jowett

Scottish Ballet Festival Theatre,

Edinburgh

Baldwin has a playful nature as a dancemaker. Although he demands precision, orchestrating his 14 dancers in tidy regimentation, he clearly expects them to have a good time. Their jumps are choreographed to take off enthusiastically, their partnering is gently seductive and a kind of innocence with attitude permeates their stylistic personas.

Maybe that's what went

wrong at the Edinburgh Festival Theatre last week. The matinee cast I saw was led by the glurn duo of Daria Klimentova and Vladislav Bubnov; Baldwin kept giving them opportunities to inject individual colour and personality into his choreography, and they kept ignoring them. One could just imagine what a livelier couple would do with Ae Fond Kiss.

is a real treat. The Bournonville classic is an absolute charmer, especially in Hans Brenaa's immaculate production, restaged this year by Sorella Englund. Peter Cazalet's restful designs set a most attractive scene for the feast of robust romantic dancing that the Scottish dancers serve up. The company looks well rehearsed in the Bournonville style — jumps are beautifully cushioned, phrasing skirts delightfully across Lovenskjold's score — and the story is told through the clearest of mime.

Scottish Ballet's La Sylphide

Maria Teresa Del Real led a fine cast on Saturday. The extraordinary softness of her dancing in the title role added richness to choreography that is often underplayed in the misguided pursuit of his-torical authenticity. She bent Campbell McKenzie's amenable James to her will with such allure that who could blame his ill-fated transgression with a sylph? Robin Bernadet produced some lovely dancing as Gurn, the lucky man who wins Effie's heart by default, while Robert Hampton's malevolent Madge took hold of the action with a magnetic authority.

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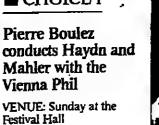
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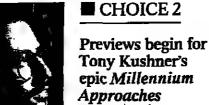
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■ CHOICE 1

Pierre Boulez conducts Haydn and Mahler with the Vienna Phil VENUE: Sunday at the







Opening night for Nick Dear's adaptation of A Family Affair VENUE: Tonight at Theatr Clwyd, Mold



■ THEATRE

Nigel Williams's new play at the Royal Court, Harry and Me. makes for a thoroughly irritating evening

LONDON

MAGNIFICENT VIENNA: Plant Pretharmonic, for a programme of Haydn's Symphony No 104, London and Mahler's Symphony No 5 Festival Hell, South Benk, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Sun, 7 30pm. (5)

RUSSIAN NIGHTS! Conductors liya Musin and Stan Edwards step in for Valory Gerglov in this weekend's Royal Philharmonic Orchestra concerts. Work for these programmes in the Maryinsky kirov senes will be by Tchaikovsky, coliev Shostekovich, Stravinsky Bartolom, 5th Street, EC (0171-638 8891) Tonight and Sal, 7 30pm (2)

ELSEWHERE CHESTER: It's a weekend of previous for Strangers on a Train. Craig Warner's stage version of his

[1] BONDAGERS Last of the Four Corners season: Sue Glover's acclaimer and notify atmospheric drama following six women of the 1880s at work on

boroers lamb.

Traverse

Domer Warehouse, Earthur Smrt.

WC2 (0171-369 1732) Mon-Sai, 8pm; s Apr 4, and Sal. 3pm. COMPANY Admir Less, Shirts Gash, Sophie Thompson in an excellent saging of Soudnern's bittersweet musical on martiage pro and contra. Alberry, St Mann's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat. 7 45pm, mats Wed-sel Sat. Sec. Sec. 1999.

MOTHER COURAGE AND HER

EL MOTHER COMMAGE AND HER CHILDREN Diene Rog sturdily moving in title role of Brecht's epic denuncation of wer Jonathan Kent directs a new version by David Hare National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1

NEW RELEASES ◆ BALTO (U) Bland anymated film dipthena epidemic in Alaska MGM Trocadero (5 (0171-434 0031) Plaza (5 (0171-437 1234) UCI Whiteleys (5 (0171-732 3332) Werner (0171-437 4343)

◆ CUTTHROAT ISLAND (PG) Redundant pitals movie, with two miscast stars (Geens Davis, Matthew miscas stars recent basis, neutrino Modinel, Director, Pariny Harin, McMar Chiefess (0171-352 5096) Trocadero § (0171-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys § (0171-792 3332) Warmer § (0171-437 4343)

DEAD MAN WALLUNG (15) Occas winner Susan Sarandon viers Sean Penn on Death Row. Powerful, carefully belanced drama about capital purishment Director, Tim Robbins, Gate © (0171-727 4043) MGMs; Stuties St (0171-735 017) Retherbank Rd (0171-77) 3705 Shetherbank Aug.

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts compiled by Kris Anderson

Hitchcock's film treatment of Pathoa Highsmith's novel Get the picture? my Raison directs a classic thrile Gateway, Hamilton Place (01244 340392) Previews tonight Sat, 8pm; Mon, 7 45pm Opens Apr 2 6

GLASGOW: First right of previews too for Millennium Approaches, the first part of Tony Rushner's dense and fascinating Angels in America. Mormons, Roy Cohn, Alds. and, yes, finally an angel Presented by 7:84 Tren. Trongate (0141-552 4267) Tue-Sax, 7.30pm, Until Apr 20 👸

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessmen of theatre showing in London House full, returns only Some seats systematic

(0171-928 2252) Tonight, 7 15pm, Sat. 2pm and 7 16pm. In rep 🔊

III MOSS JULIE Classing right ic Polly Teale, directing Susan Lynch and John Harmah in Strindberg's tale of eronc passion and doom Young Vis. The Cul. SE1 (0171-926 6363) Tonight, 7 30pm. Then Mon-Sal. 7 30pm, mat Sat 3 30pm.

CINEMA GUIDE

Genff Broom's assument of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol •) on release across the country

(01426 914686) Swies Cottage (01426 914098) Renoir (0171-837 8402) Filotamord (0181-325 0030) Witzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys () (0171-792 3332) Warner () (0171-437 4343)

LAWINGOWER MAN 2: IJEYOND CYBERSPACE (12): Patrick Bergin and lads burdle Matt Frence in the land of virtual reality. Moderate high-tech lantasy, directed by Fashad Mann.

DUINSTON CHECKS IN IPG):
Orang-dam causes have in a five-star hotel Perky family comedy with Jason.

VENUE: Tonight at the Tron, Glasgow

MOLD: Opening right for A Family Affair, Ostrovsky's marvellously sournious play about the greed of

Moscow merchants in 1846, Personali banned by the Tsar, adepted by Nick Dear for a termous Cheek by Jowl production, and here directed by Preim McDermott Theatr Ckeyd (01352 755114) Toright, 7 45pm, Then Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; mats Apr 13, 20, 2 45pm &

LONDON GALLERIES

Courtacid Drawings by Thomas Gamsborough (071-873 2526) . Hayward: Speltound: Art and Film (071-928 3144) . . . National Gallery Picasso's Pontat of Angel Feméndez de Soto (0171-747 2885) . . National Portrait Gallery: The Room in View (0171-305 0055). Royal Academ; Gustav Callebotte (0171-439 7439). Tate: Cézanne (0171-887 8000)... V&A. Leighton Frescoes (938 8500)

■ SKYLIGHT Outstanding playing by Michael Gambon and Lia Williams in Devid Haire's dramalisation of society's conflicts in the form of a prickly reunion

nnies in bie kunt of a prijosy febriori yndham's, Charing Cross Rd, (0171-9 1736). Mon-Sai, 8pm; Sat 3pm TAP DOGS. Dain Perry's sextet of dancers in working-books returns to its building-site set. High energy stuff, Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri and Sat,

TOMMY Hugely impressive staging of the traumatised child's apothecase to or me traumassed orad is appointed by inhall wicard Loads of electronic inclus disguise the improbability Shaftesbury, Sha Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

Alexander, Pupert Everett and Faye Dunaway Director, Keri Kwapos Odeonas: Kersington (01426 914696) Swiss Cottage (01426 914096) West End (01426 915574) UCI Whiteleys E ◆ SGT, BILKO (PG): Crass spin-off conniving army sergeant, With Dan Alvroyd, Director, Jonathan Lynn Empire (2) (0171-437 1234) MiGMet Futhern Road (0171-370 2006)

CURRENT

o TOY STORY (PG) Computer-ammated Disney delight with a cest of treitul toys.

Burbleam (2) (0171-638 8891) MGMe: Balker St (0171-639 9772) Cheiseai (0171-362 5036) Octeone: Kensington (01426 914665) Leliceater Sq (01426 915 683) Marble Arch (01426 914501) Swites Cottage (01428 914098) UCI Whiteleys (5) (0171-792 3332)

■ CHOICE 3

Benedict Nightingale finds little to applaud in Nigel Williams's new farce

Hanging on the phone

Harry and Me Royal Court

f someone were to cut off the phones that clutter the big, messy office where Nigel Williams's new farce is set, as I frequently wished he would, the piece would hardly exist at all. The characters speak on mobiles and on plugged-in contraptions, at times two or three simultaneously. They use the airwaves to ingratiate, implore, pester, clog up other people's phone systems, threaten, curse, scream and do a series of funny voices. All that is lacking to make an irritating evening complete is a guest appearance by Bob Hoskins, assuring us with a jolly cockney wink that it's. good to talk.

James Macdonald's cast is a strong one. Ron Cook, doing a frighteningly plausible imita-tion of a rabid weasel, plays the manic producer of what is not very originally known as the television chat show from hell". Sheila Hancock, his PA, is a dyed blonde of uncertain age who copes with aspiring interviewees in a dim nasal drone: "Your skin affliction does sound a fascinating one I'll be in touch." Dudley Sutton plays the programme's host, Harry Harrod, every sagging inch proclaiming that he and his career are stuck

dumps and the doldrums. The first half mainly consists of Cook's demented efforts to solve the double crisis caused when Harrod goes on an alcoholic binge and

somewhere



a rock star is prevented by his agent from appearing on The Harrod Show. I sniggered as the four-letter words came pouring unstoppably out, but I did not snigger long enough to stem the objections accumulating in my mind. Don't the tirades get a bit repetitive and predictable? Why the desperation to nab a singer who, it emerges, has never been a chart-topper in Finland or Zambia, let alone Britain or America? And why is Sutton's

Harrod so unaffected by ii-

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quor when he finally arrives? Nane of these questions is adequately answered in a second half that consists of more of the same, only more frantic, more obsessive. Before long the characters are besieg ing the agent's office with phone calls they pretend come from Chicago, LA, Newcastle, heaven knows where. But their deceit is neither as logical nor as beguiling as good farce demands, and, still more unfortunately, there are signs that Williams wishes to deep-

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Adapted by Stephen Malieta
The most Serting and chil

en the increasingly lunatic proceedings. Harrod turns out to have a long-lost son who is dying from an Aids-related disease, Hancock's Tracy learns she has secondary cancer, and even Ray launches into a lament for his own meaninglessness.

If the aim is to suggest a pain and poignancy in these empty, driven lives, it is about as effective as painting sad faces on a bunch of party balloons. It is best to overlook such intrusions and concen-

trate on what fun there is. This mainly comes from Hancock's attempts to pass herself off as an Irish singer, a Welsh soothsayer, a Russian shrink, an upper-class solicitor, a tax official from the North East, assorted Americans and the head of the Dutch Guild of Film Agents "from Omshterdom". It may not be clear why she assays all these accents or how so lowly a factotum can be so vocally versatile; but at least she makes you laugh.

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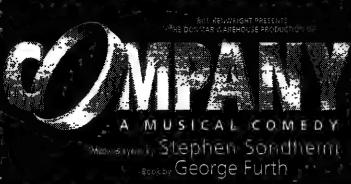
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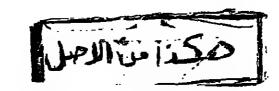
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■ POP 1

Los Lobos return with an eclectic sound that's set to baffle the ears of those who loved La Bamba



■ POP 2

A change of pace for Tasmin Archer with her latest album, Bloom, an impressively cool piece of work





📕 POP 3

Is Tina Turner finally losing her audience? Her new album, Wildest Dreams, would suggest she has



POP 4

Singing the praises of American Music Club's Mark Eitzel: the man who turns his friends into heart-rending songs

Music. He broke up the rever-

ent atmosphere of American

Music Club's London Forum

gig by putting a My Little Pony down his pants. (It

seemed like a good idea at the time," Eitzel moans, head in

hands.) He wants the Hair

Club For Men to sponsor his

thuses, his soft, brown-eyed face broken up by a grin,

"They put these metal poppers

in your head, and you clip the

hair on. You can cycle, run.

swim and dance in complete

So you'd actually have metal

poppers implanted in your head? "Are you kidding?" Eitzel yelps. "You have to understand that to have hair

when he has none, a man

would do anything. He would

paint a shed with his tongue if

It's Eitzel's black humour

that makes his songs ache

with a poignancy that some

lantern-jawed rock-god in

shades could never aspire to.

While artifice is all well and

good, it's when songwriters

give themselves, as they have

nothing else to give, that the white-hot fire of genius burns

itself onto records, and puts a

wobble into the orbit of stars.

comets puncturing the sky

There have been a lot of

"They're fantastic," he en-

next tour.

hair-security."

necessary,"

Tex-Mex with everything

NEW ALBUMS

IOS LOBOS Colossal Head (Warner Bros 9362-46172) ALTHOUGH Los Lobos are best remembered for La Bamba, their No 1 hit of nine years ago, that song was never especially representative of their Latino-blues sound. But Colossal Head takes them into another dimension altogether. Throwing stylistic caution to the winds, the band from East Los Angeles have come up with an adventurous mixture of progressive rock, acid jazz, Tex-Mex and scrapyard blues that recalls, in tiny snatches, an unlikely spectrum of acts - Santana, Evan Lurie, Beck, Morphine, Jethro Tull, Frank Zappa, Tom Waits, the Beastie Boys without actually sounding like any of them.

The production, by Mitchell Froom and Tchad Blake, is often eerie and echoing, with drum sounds that tend to ricochet like a spanner on steel piping, or else sound like muffled gunshots in the distance. The mood is similarly ili-defined. One minute you find them motoring to the end of Mas Y Mas with a magisterial electric guitar solo. Next thing, they shuffle away with Everybody Loves a Train, a ramshackle acoustic guitar groove spiced with baritone sax and a vocal that sounds like the mumbling of an old hobo out riding the rails.

Both these tracks, and others, sound sensational in their own way, but it is a collection whose centre of gravity is difficult to locate, and one that will quickly try the patience of radio programmers and the band's own marketing people. For those prepared to invest the time and interest, however, it is well worth making the effort to seek out this uniquely wonderful album.

*4SMIN ARCHER

(EMI 7243 8 36178) IT WAS only three years ago, but does anyone remember all the fuss that was made about Tasmin Archer when Sleeping

Eighties Soul Weekende



Los Lobos throw essence of Santana, Morphine, Jethro Tull and Frank Zappa into the pot and come up with Colossal Head

Satellite topped the chart and she won her Best Newcomer award at the Brits? So much seems to have happened since then, and she is unlikely to have such a clear run with her second album, Bloom, despite its evocative tunes and lowkey charm.

Archer remains something of a rarity, a black British singer who sounds more like Chrissie Hynde than Gabrielle, and a writer who manages to keep her songs short and simple, while infusing them with deep shades of longing and regret.

With bassist Bruce Thomas and drummer Pete Thomas of the Attractions providing a typically crisp rhythmic foundation, the ubiquitous production team of Mitchell Froom and Tchad Blake stamp the album with their trademarked haunted-house ambience, imparting a particularly sparse, spectral feel to the arrangements of Give in With Grace and You Made a Fool of Me.

....Various Artists (Ministry of Soul)Various Artists (Dino)

Various Artists (Virgin)

TINA TURNER

Wildest Dreams (Parlophone 7243 8 37684) STILL a great singer and a glamorous hoofer. Tina Turner knows a trick or two about putting across a song. Unfortunately, that has not been enough to save her from turning into the new Shirley

Bassey. It is not just her brassy rendition of the theme for the James Bond movie. Goldeneye, that gives the game away on Wildest Dreams. Hobbled by a musclebound production (mostly by Trevor Horn), she tackles a succession of dreary, middle-of-the-road rock tunes such as Tony Joe White's On

Silent Wings (with guest vocals by Sting) and blustery set-piece ballads with sturdy

conviction. But she is playing to the same old gallery, while the rest of the world moves on

DAVID SINCLAIR

Mark Eitzel's got something. Caitlin Moran, for a start Mark Eitzel critic and cynic around. His publishing com-pany is called I Failed in Life

t's an almost empty house - just two beds and a card table. An echo-haunted home since his lover left. Down the road there's his local bar. He's their resident "half-famous" person; he gets free drinks in exchange for being pointed out to tourists. His friends drink here -

Kathleen, to whom he wrote an elegiac symphony which "pissed her off" because he didn't think to make up a pseudonym for her. In the corner is another friend, a millionairess who buys marijuana and gives it to Aids sufferers. "I pay for her park-ing and beer," Mark Eitzel

says. "She never has change." San Francisco's endless twilights and haunted, dark corners inform every word or note Eitzel has ever sung: his friends become songs, their deaths become songs (Aids has hit hard).

Everclear, Eitzel's fifth alburn with his band, American Music Club, documented that slow deterioration with painful honesty and an arc-light genius (not a word to be used lightly). Rolling Stone maga-zine made it Album of the Year. Things became strange after he got that award. The previous four albums had been greeted with critical hyperbole and sold around six copies each. After Rolling Stone stepped in, American Music Club got a major-label deal, and Kurt Cobain became his biggest fan. Cobain's manager now manages Eitzel.

"Apparently Kurt and Courtney [Love] really liked the album," Eitzel shrugs. "We

Godlike genius, or what?

got signed to Virgin. But the other members of the band became like dazed cows when we got the money. They were like 'Mark, write pop. Write pop songs. We're gonna be the next R.E.M.' And I'm not the next R.E.M. Nowhere near. I write these little songs." Little songs like Ex-Girl-

friend, which starts off in the middle of a nervous breakdown, all wildly writhing guitars and Eitzel's racked lowing. He was crying as the song finished - it was too raw, too much of the moment when all reason caves in and all we're left with is grief to cling to. Little songs like The Hopes and Dreams of Heaven's 10,000 Whores, where Eitzel's voice buckles as he sings: "Just waiting for my prescription to come, because every second

dissolves more of me." Eitzel's artistic stomping ground is the area razed and cleared by Nick Drake - the song that hangs suspended in an other-worldly bubble of its own, subject to its own storms and seasons. That he is one of the top five sangwriters of the 20th century is something only waiting for some kind of celestial poll to confirm. Of course. Eitzel doesn't see

it like that. He is the biggest

recently. There is a new Mark Eitzel album on its way. It's a simple equation.

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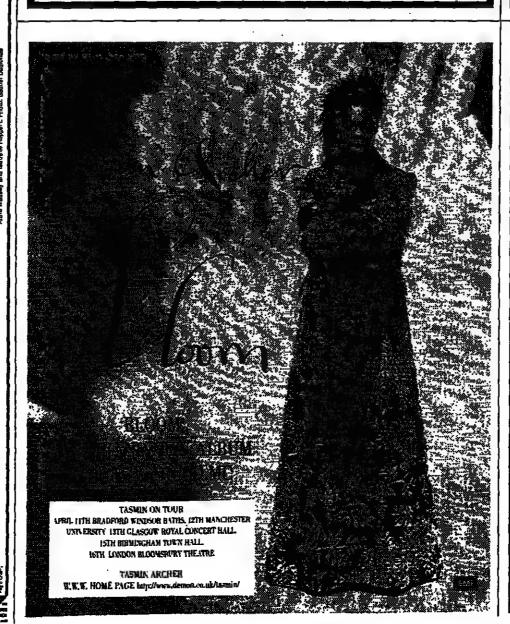
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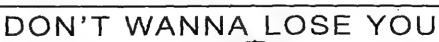
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and Bodley's Librarian Applications are invited for the new post of Director of University Library Services and Bodley's Librarien, which is being established from 1 January 1997 following the retrement of Mr David

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The stipend will be not less than £50,000 per annum.

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Further particulars may be obtained from:

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John O'Leary says the Key Stage 3 papers are now more focused and will be marked with greater consistency

Final phase in the cycle of testing

ational tests at 14 are still associated with the longest-running bout of industrial action to hit schools in the 1990s. But, despite considerable concern about the marking of last year's English papers, the exercise has now been ccepted in state schools.

The intention is to offer a last progress report before pupils embark on their GCSE courses. Parents can judge how well their children have adapted to secondary school and teachers have another yardstick to add to their own sessment of achievement in the three years of Key Stage 3.

THE

Whatever their continuing reservations, some of the unions' origi-nal anxiety about the tests has now evaporated. There is no prospect, for example, of the results being used to compile league tables of schools. Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, has ruled out such a development for the moment, and it is hard to imagine the tests ever meriting more than a largely unnoticed line in the tables recording GCSE and

Parents can make their own local comparisons, however, since the annual reports. With the Office for Standards in Education reporting widespread underachievement in the early years of secondary school.

prospective appli-cants may find the results a useful guide to the evenness of quality through a school. Criticisms of the

length and character of the tests were addressed by Sir Ron Dearing in his review of

the national curriculum. The papers to be sat by 14-year-olds next term will occupy less time and be more clearly focused than those which provoked the union boycott.

Large numbers of teachers have been involved in drawing up the latest version, which will differ only marginally from last year's. The main change then, to introduce external marking, will also be continued but with new safeguards The School Curriculum and As-

sessment Authority acknowledged flaws in the initial operation, especially in English. Ministers' agreement to lift the marking burden from teachers created a demand, for an unprecedented number of external markers, many

of them inevitably inexperienced. About 13 per cent of schools asked for papers to be re-marked and 4 per cent had some levels changed. This year the marking scheme has been clarified, extra



duced and the stepped up to ensure that the process runs more smoothly. For most par-

ents, however, the priority will be to ensure that 14year-olds are fully prepared for the tests. The results will look after themselves.

Few schools will make direct use of the results, which come too late to influence the choice of GCSE subjects, other than for a late change of plan when next year's courses are about to begin. But pupils will want to do their best and will know that the outcome forms part of their school record when decisions are being made before

entry to the sixth form or college. The mathematics and science tests lend themselves particularly to revision, which might be carried out in a relaxed way over the Easter holidays, For English, practice rather than revision may be of most assistance, although a rereading of the school's chosen Shakespeare play would be an obvious starting

Many 14-year-olds will get their first taste of the examination hall in May. The tests at seven and II were introduced too late for them to have formality, and their schools' end-ofyear tests (where they exist) will have had a different atmosphere and purpose.

Parents may want to ensure that their children are familiar with the format of the tests and know precisely what is to be covered in them. In most cases, schools will already have performed this function, although some prefer to leave discussion of the tests until the start of the summer term

The basic rules of revision are the same for 14-yearolds as for those sitting GCSE or A level: set realistic targets, find somewhere with as few distractions as possible, look back regularly to reinforce the memory, ask a teacher if there are sections you do not understand fully. Every teenager develops different revision techniques, some of which may look ineffective but may suit the individual.

In the week of the tests, the rules are even more basic. The most obvious, but easily forgotten, is to establish exactly when and where each paper is to be sat. After that, it is a matter of reading the questions carefully, making sure that answers are clear and allocating time sensibly. The tests all show how many marks are allocated for each



For many of this year's 14-year-olds the tests will provide their first taste of examination-hall formality

ENGLISH: READING, WRITING AND CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Brush up your Shakespeare

E nglish assessors are looking for a lively mind and a firm grasp of language from the best candidates in this year's tests. Questions on the reading comprehension passage are

designed to assess pupils understanding, inference and deduction, response and critical ideas. In the writing test, markers will look for a variety of sentence styles and a range of vocabulary in a piece which begins and ends arrestingly.

Schools have already been told which scenes to study for the Shakespeare test. Last year pupils often made the mistake of repeating the plot rather than analysing the text for Anificance. Assessors said:

on the scene and invite pupils to show their understanding of and response to that perspective. It is hoped the questions prompt a re-thinking, rather than pupils feeling they should repeat what they have been

told in class." Various ways of testing Shakespeare are being given a trial in 1996, for a possible revamp of the paper for 1997.

Many schools asked for Key Stage 3 English papers to be re-marked last year, the first time that external markers had been used. As a result, more than 20,000 pupils had grades changed.

One of the biggest problems was the bunching of marks at

"The questions offer an angle Levels 4 and 5, and insufficient recognition of achievement at Levels 6 and 7. Although teachers will

again be scrutinising their candidates' marks closely, the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority has made several changes to try to improve the reliability of the marking process, including:

 Telling markers to award grades for the overall quality of an answer, rather than for individual points.

• Grades for spelling and handwriting will be subsumed into the overall writing mark, to reduce the number of judgments a marker has to make. • The marking scheme will

Level 7" and "below Level 4" to encourage markers to use the full mark range. All markers will have to submit sample papers for approval before being allowed to continue.

include new criteria for "above

Reading and writing is covered in paper one, on the morning of Wednesday, May 8. Shakespeare is in paper two the following morning.
Teachers have been asked to

emphasise to pupils that they should take into account the marks available for each answer so they spend their time appropriately, and that if an instruction is not clear, they can ask an invigilator for help.

DAVID CHARTER

Romeo and Juliet is one of the Shakespeare set texts

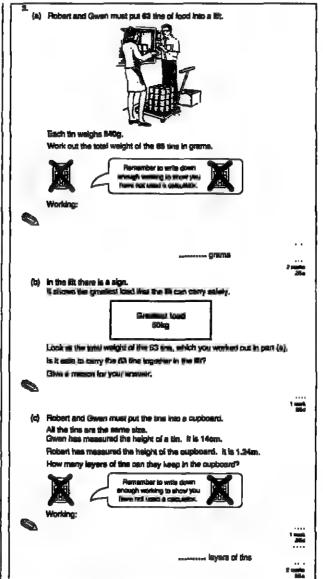
Getting into the character

sion paper for 14-year-olds includes prompts advising on areas which need to be covered in each answer.

Last year's passage, from a story about evacuees, had a question asking what was earnt about the main character's thoughts and feelings. The prompts said candidates should comment on what she did, how she described things and how she was affected by her family's comments.

quires analysis of a prepared scene from Julius Caesar. Romeo and Juliet or A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Questions will follow (ast year's pattern when candidates had either to put themselves in the position of one of the characters to show what they thought of the events in the scene, or to explain the differences between two key characters and whether they were trustworthy.



MATHEMATICS: PLEASE EXPLAIN

Happy with the hows but not with the whys

any pupils taking last year's mathe-matics tests for 14year-olds had trouble expressing themselves clearly enough to gain full marks on questions calling for explanations of their approach, David Charter writes.

The national curriculum stresses the importance of pupils justifying and explaining their mathematics, preferably with drawings and diagrams rather than prose. This is reflected in the award of 10 per cent of the marks for their explanations and justifications.

Pupils also struggled with tions, leading to calls for a calculator-iree paper. The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority is reviewing whether calculators should be banned on one of the two papers next year, which may make pupils focus more on expressing their mathematical reasoning. However, the national curriculum also aims to promote "appropriate, eff-ective and efficient" use of calculators, which this year

can be used in both tests. There is a choice of four tiered papers at 14, the easiest covering Levels 3 to 5 and the hardest Levels 6 to 8.

Last year at Level 3, pupils had difficulty in explaining the properties of shapes and in using a number pattern to solve a problem. At Level 4, estimating fractions and percentages was done well, as was reading and interpreting co-ordinates from a graph, but children had difficulty solving

problems without a calculator. Level 5 questions on alge-braic expressions were also found hard, as was dividing by a two-digit number without a calculator. At Level 6, the questions children found harder included those about using sensible estimates to calculate rough amounts.

Level 7 questions which were answered very well included those asking for a quadratic equation to be solved and finding the volume of a prism. More difficult was applying Pythagoras' theorem and explaining how increasing the number of trials in an experiment will lead to a better

The many aspects of Level 8 questions which pupils found difficult included substituting negative values into formulae and calculating the probability of a combined event.

A spokesman for the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, commenting on last pupils were able to identify which mathematics they should use in answering questions. At all levels, pupils had more difficulty with those questions which required mathematical reasoning and

problem-solving skills."
The time allowed for this year's extension paper has been cut to one hour. Very few pupils tried this paper last year and many teachers took the view that the GCSE itself would be a more appropriate test for the high-flyers.

 Above left, a sample question from last year

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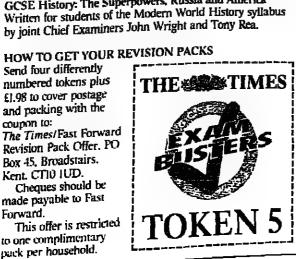
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Mind your language, please

PUPILS are being advised to brush up on their knowledge of scientific terms after answers last year showed much confusion over the exact mean-

ing of technical language.
Assessors are also advising candidates to read the paper carefully and stick to the instructions after a series of errors in science tests caused by questions not being anered fully. Marks were lost last year when children simply used description when they were being asked to analyse, explain or compare.

This year's science tests, on the morning and afternoon of Monday, May 13, are again in tiered papers at Levels 3 to 6 and Levels 5 to 7. A good knowledge of scien-

13 Most polien grains are transferred from one flower to another either by wind or by insects.

Look at the drawnos below which show pollen grains from three different

2. Give a careful explanation for the method you have chosen each

tific vocabulary is essential to satisfy markers who want evidence of reasoning and deduction.

At the lower levels last year, pupils asked to identify parts of the human body had little trouble with the heart and lungs, but the kidney was sometimes wrongly labelled the gut, stomach or spleen. On a question about fuels,

food was often given in response to a question on which fuels can be stored in sacks, but marked wrong given the context of the question. Less than a third of pupils were able to identify two waste products when fuels burn. Half of the candidates could

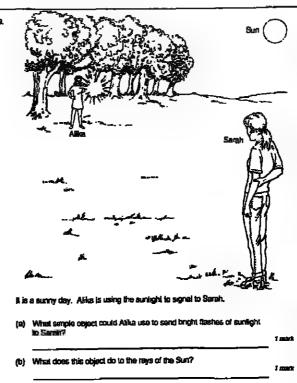
not describe the forces acting on a rocket accurately.

On the higher-level papers, only a third could explain the function of a sperm head. Wrong answers included "giving directions" and "finding its way", because a more scientifically precise answer was expected.

SCIENCE WASTER THE TERMINOLOGY

Most pupils knew that the Sun was the star in our solar system, but the majority showed they did not under stand the difference between "renewable" and "recyclable" energy. In another problem with scientific terms, a question on filtration where the process was "distillation" was often answered incorrectly as "evaporation" or "condensation".

Below, sample questions





Key Stage 2

SOME of the topics in-

cluded in Wednesday's

main article on science for

II-year-olds have been re-

moved from the curricu-

lum to be tested this year.

Pupils are no longer re-quired to know about

plant competition in the

biological section and both

weathering and the role of

oxygen have been re-

moved from materials and

their properties. The phys-

ical processes section no

longer covers the differ-

ence between renewable

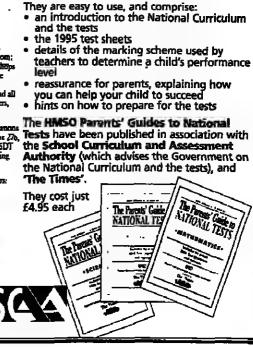
and non-renewable fuels,

energy transfer, planets

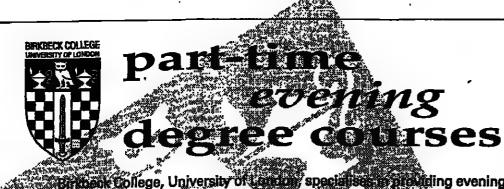
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Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Executive Secretary, Japan Foundation Endowment Committee, c/o The University of Sheffield, Firth Court, Western Rank, Sheffield S10 2TN, by whom completed forms must be received by Friday 3 May 1996 at the latest. Separate forms are used for research grant applications and studentship applications, enquirers should specify in which they are interested

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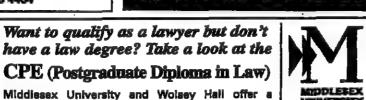
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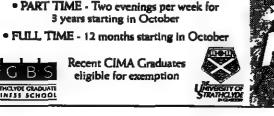
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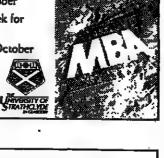
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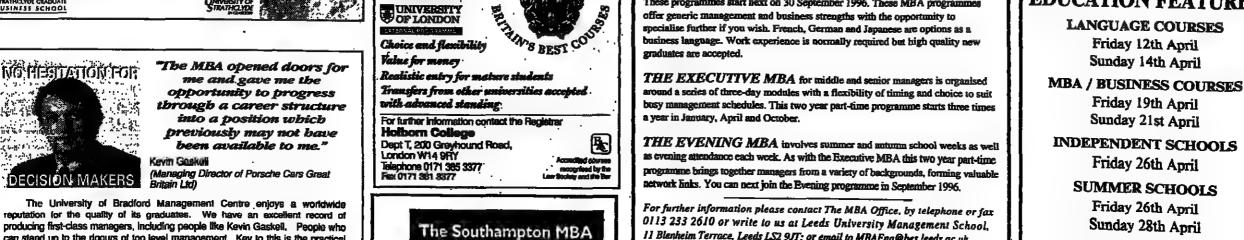
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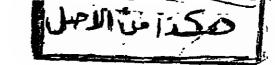
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House of Lords

Law Report March 29 1996

Court of Appeal

Nuclear liabilities income cannot be set off

Nuclear Electric plc v Bradley (Inspector of Taxes)

TAMINE) 3

A STATE OF THE STA

Before Lord Goff of Chieveley Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Hoffmann |Speeches March 28|

Investment income from funds set aside to meet the future liabilities that would result from the production of electricity from nuclear energy was not trading income capable of being set off against trading losses under section 393(8) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by the taxpover. Nuclear Electric plc. from the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millen and Lord Justice Schiemann) (The Times October 27, 1995; [1995] STC 1125), who had allowed an appeal by the Crown from Sir John Vinelott, sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division (The Times February 28, 1995; 1995 STC 289. The judge had reversed a decision of the special commissioners that trading losses of the taxpayer for the year to March 31, 1991 could not be set against investment income of £93 million.

Mr Graham Aaronson, QC and Mr Joseph Hage for the taxpayer, Mr John Gardiner, QC, Mr Jona-than Peacock and Mr Rabinder Singh for the Crown

LORD JAUNCEY said that the in taxpayer was a producer and supplier of electricity generated by nuclear power. It had been incor-porated in January 1990 to take over from April 1 the business, plant, assets and trading liabilities of that part of the Central Electricity Generating Board that pro-duced electricity by that method.

No provision had been made by the CEGB for the very large trading liabilities taken over by the taxpayer and, after making appro-priate provision for those liabliities, the taxpayer had incurred a substantial loss in its first year of trading ending on March 31, 1991.

During that year the taxpayer had invested about £520 million of its trading receipts in the National back-end costs" attributable to that year, and the income therefrom, some £93 million, was the subject of the appeal.
"Back-end costs" were those

Cosgrove v Director of Pub-

defore Lord Justice Leggatt and Sir

Although a breath specimen device

automatically closing down, there was no principle of law that a driver had to be allowed the full

three minutes to give a sample, nor

to be told at any stage of the procedure that he had three min-

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when dismissing

an appeal by James Cosgrove by

way of case stated from Warring-

ton Crown Court Judge Phillips

and justices) which had dismissed his appeal from conviction by

4. 1993 on a charge of failing to

. .

utes to provide the sample.

lic Properations

Judgment March 191

reprocessing of the nuclear fuel for reuse and disposal of the radio-

They were incurred over a very long period of time, up to 100 years in the case of one type of reactor, and the taxpayer provided for them by averaging them over the five years over which the fuel was used and attributing a proportion to each year, which was then discounted back from the dates when the expenditure was ex-pected to be incurred and deducted in computing the profit or loss for the relevant year in the quinquennium. The revenue accepted that that was a proper method of

That the back-end costs would ultimately have to be mut and that it was accordingly prudent to make provision for them was not in doubt. However, having in-vested sums in the National Loan Fund, the taxpayer was not obliged to retain the capital in monetary

It could invest it in new revenue producing plant or use it for some other purpose, not being payment of a dividend, connected with its operations in the event of a change in circumstances whereby it ap-peared that the back-end costs could he met in some other way.

The 1988 Act provided no guidance as to when investment income amounted to a trading receipt of the taxpayer beyond impliedly recognising that it could sometimes do so. Such few authorities as were relevant had refused to lay down any hard and fast rule or draw any distinct line. It must at the end of the day always be a question of fact.

In Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co v Bennett [[1911] 2 KB 577; [1912] KB 41, CA; [1913] AC 610, HL) Lord Justice Buckley in the Court of Appeal (a p60) had posed the question as being "whether the interest and dividends are profits of the busi-ness as fruit derived from a fund ness", and that had been cited with approval by Lord Loreburn in the House of Lords (at pol9).

The words "employed and risked" had been quoted on marry occasions, but his Lordship doubted the utility of "risked" as a word of general application. He did not think that it was necessary subject of the appeal.

"Back-end costs" were those relating to the storing and the business whereby any income

Driver need not be given full

three minutes for test

provide a specimen of breath for

analysis without reasonable

must be given the full three

minutes and it could not be said

there had been an unreasonable

refusal unless the three minutes

had elapsed. There was no au-

thority for that proposition of law.

therefrom arose from the trade for the purposes of Case I of Schedule

In Bank Line Ltd v Commissioners of Inland Revenue ((1974) 49 TC 307) the Court of Session had owning company to replace, some not to be treated as trading income for the purposes of the statutor predecessor of section 393. His ordship could see no grounds for distinguishing that case, which he considered to have been correctly

Whether income from investments held by a business was trading income must ultimately depend on the nature of th siness and the purpose for which the fund was held,

At one end of the scale were insurance companies and banks part of whose business was the making and holding of investments to meet current liabilities. It had been suggested that tour operators might fall into that category but without a good deal more information his Lordship did

not feel able to express an opinion. At the other end, were busi nesses of which the making and holding of investments formed no part. In between there would no doubt fall other types of business whose position was not so clear.

However, it was absolutely clear that the taxpayer's business was to produce and supply electricity. The making of investments was neit an integral nor any part of its business.

Furthermore, the investments that it had made had been in no sense employed in the business of producing electricity during the year of assessment. It followed that wherever the line might be drawn, the income from its invest-ment could not be treated as trading income.

The case concerned a very large sum intended to be invested for a long period. In concluding that the fund had not been employed in the taxpayer's business his Lordship would not wish to be taken as suggesting that sums held by a er in an interest-bearing account to meet current or short-term trading liabilities should be simi-

Lord Goff, Lord Slynn, Lord Nicholls and Lord Hoffmann

agreed. Solicitors: Clifford Chance; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

No damages for wrongful eviction

Melville v Bruton Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith. Lord Justice Hutchison and Mr

Justice Buckley (Judgment March 21)

Where a tenant had been wrongfully evicted by his landlord but the eviction had made no difference to the value of the landlord's interest in the property, nu damages could be awarded against the landlord under the Housing Act 1988.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the defen-dant, Mr Stephen Bruton, of Sulgrave Drive, Corby against an award of £15,000 damages by Miss Recorder Corkhill in Northampton County Court for the plaintiff, Mrs Helen Melville. The court awarded the plaintiff (500 for the inconvenience, discomfort and distress occasioned by her eviction.

Mr Michael Ellis for Mr Bruton: Mr Peter Hollingworth for Mrs

LORD JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that the appeal was against an award of £15,000 damages, pursuant to sections 27 and 25 of the 1988 Act. made by the recorder on August 3, 1995. At the same time the recorder awarded damages of £2.379 for conversion of the plaintiff's possessions. That award was not challenged.

The premises enusisted of a freehold property at 143 Lincoln Way. Corby. It was once owned by the council and when they disposed of the freehold to a predecessor in title of the defendant it was on the basis of a restrictive covenant prohibiting user of the premises save as a private dwell-

The plaintiff was on January 27, 1993 granted a secure shorthold tenancy of part of the premises for six months at a rent of £95 a week and she went into occupation on February 5. On March II she was

When the plaintiff became the tenant there were already two other occupants of part of the premises. Whether they were ten-

ants or licensees was not known. The recorder accepted that the defendant had evicted the plaintiff by excluding her from the property and removing her belongings. She and her daughters had to go and live with her mother before eventually being found accommodation

In the proceedings which she began on March 17, 1993 the plaintiff claimed damages in respect of unlawful eviction. The form of the claim was wide enough to include general damages for distress and inconvenience and damages under the 1988 Act, as well as damages for conversion of the chartels.

The plaintiff's pleaded case at the trial was that pursuant to sections 27 and 25 of the Act she was entitled to £15,000, said to be the difference between the value of the defendant's interest in the property immediately before the eviction. £15,000, and the value of that interest after the eviction.

Those assertions were based on the advice of an experienced valuer. Mr Parkhouse. The defendant's valuer, Mr Swallow, advanced a figure of £13,000, based on his assessment of the two values at £7,000 and £20,000 respectively.
The recorder preferred the evidence of Mr Parkhouse and awarded £15,000.

Section 27 applied when a landlord unlawfully deprived a residential occupier of any premises of his occupation of the whole or part of the premises, and provided, by subsection (3), that the landford in default "shall ... be ble to pay to the former residential occupier, in respect of his loss of the right to occupy the premises in question as his residence, dam-

in section 28." Section 28 provided: "(1) The basis for the assessment of damages ... is the difference in value, determined as at the time immediately before the residential occupier ceased to occupy the premises in question as his residence, between - (a) the value of the interest of the landlord in default determined on the assumption that the residential occupies continues to have the same right to occupy the premises as before that time: and (b) the value of that interest determined on the assumption that the residential

which both valuers purported to address themselves in their reports and their evidence before the recorder. It seemed, because of the instructions they received from the two firms of solicitors, they assumed vacant possession

throughout.
That meant that, in assessing the value of the property without the plaintiff's assured shorthold tenancy they treated as irrelevant the existence of the two other

The defendant's notice of appeal raised grounds which involved the assertion that the recorder erred in holding that she had no discretion to mitigate the damages under section 28. In his Lordship's view those grounds, which Mr Ellis

sought to support, were without merit. However, Mr Ellis also advanced an entirely different argu-ment to the effect that both valuers had proceeded on an incorrect ages assessed on the basis set out hasis, having regard to the provisions of the Act.

That argument was that, as Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Leggatt had pointed out in Jones & Lee v Miah & Miah ((1992) 24 HL 578), the purpose of the Aci was to deprive the landlord of any profit that his wrongful act had pro-duced. That involved comparing the value of his interest free of the wrongly evicted tenant's interest with that value encumbered by that interest.

That comparison necessarily in-volved valuing the unencumbered interest on a factual as opposed to a notional basis, otherwise that which the landlord was ordered to pay to the tenant was not the value of the profit occasioned by his wrong but a fine which might be

There was nothing in either section to warrant the notional approach, nothing which required or justified disregarding, when making the valuation of the landlord's interest, the existence of such other residential occupancies as might still subsist in the premises. Mr Hollingworth argued that

the valuers were right to disregard the other two occupants because of

section 609 of the Housing Act 1985 the local authority were entitled to enforce the restrictive covenant against those occupants, whose interests should therefore be

treated as frustrated. That submission could not be accepted. In his Lordship's view section 609 gave the local authority no rights against the occupants. What it did was to permit the local authority to enforce the restrictive covenant against successors in title of the covenantor. The council would accordingly be entitled to enforce the covenant accurat the defendant, but not against the

occupants. There was no reason to think that the object of the 1988 Act extended to providing evicted ten-ants in all circumstances with substantial damages. There was no reason to think that the Act did not envisage the possibility that eviction would not materially have lord's interest.

It was clear from the evidence of Mr Parkhouse that, but for the incorrect assumption of vacant possession, his advice would have been that there was no increase in value. The point belatedly taken by the defendant entitled him to

succeed on the appeal.

His Lordship would assess the plaintiff's damages at common law for the inconvenience, discomfort and distress suffered at £500. Accordingly, the award of £15,000 should be set aside and E500

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Mr Justice Buckley agreed. Solicitors: Dean-Wilson, Brigh-

Letter cannot create leasehold estate in land

brought to an end by notice to quit; and that the only relevant notice to quit was that which expired on

before the commencement of the

Mr Walter denied that the

teriancy document was, or as a

matter of law was capable of being.

document was not executed as a

deed, it could take effect as a lease

section 54(2) of the Law of Property

Act 1925, that is, if it "[took] effect in

ing three years. It did not, he said.

because it took effect, if at all, as a

ession" for a term not exceed-

"lease in writing" within the

present proceedings.

Long v Tower Hamlets London Borough Council Before Mr James Munby, QC Liudgment March 201

A document in which the writing merely evidenced the existence of a lease and which was not dispositive in the sense that it created at law, of and by itself, a leasehold estate in land, was not a "lease in writing" for the purposes of para-graph 5(1) of Schedule 1 to the Limitation Act 1980.

A lease of less than three years which did not grant an immediate right to possession was not within the exception in section 54(2) of the Law of Property Act 1925 and was accordingly void for the purpose of conveying and creating a legal estate unless made by deed.

Mr James Munby, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved judgment allowing the appeal of Ronald James Long against the striking out by Deputy Master Wall on September 26, 1995, on the summons issued on March 21. 1995 by Tower Hamlets London Borough Council, of Mr Long's originating summons issued on January 13, 1995.

Mr Philip Waher for Mr Long: Miss Sara Hargreaves for Tower

HIS LORDSHIP said that on September 4, 1975 the agents acting for one of Tower Hamlet's ssors in thic wrote a letter to Mr Long confirming that on behalf of their client they were to grant him a quarterly tenancy of 2i Turners Road, Bow, London, a shop with a maisonette above it. The relevant terms were that the rent was £55 a quarter and the tenancy would commence on

September 29 on a quarterly basis.
On September 8 Mr Long endorsed a copy of the letter stating that he agreed to "abide by the ancy set out herein" and signed it and returned it to the landlord. He moved into the premises on September 29, 1975 and had been

there ever since. In September 1983 the landlord gave Mr Long notice to quit the shop; the notice expired on March 25, 1984. Mr Long remained in

It was common ground that Mr Long had paid no rent for many years: he said since 1977, the council said since March 1984. The issue was whether Mr Long had obtained title to the premises by

adverse possession.

The limitation period was 12 years from when the right of action accrued to him; see section 15(1) of the Limitation Act 1980.
Paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the

1980 Act provided: "(1) ... a tenancy from year to year or other period, without a lease in writing, shall for the purposes of this Act be treated as being determined at the expiration of the first year or other period: and accordingly the right of action of the person entitled to the land subject to the tenancy shall be treated as having accrued at the date on which in accordance with this subparagraph the ten-

Mr Long argued that since he had paid no rent since 1977 the izandiord's right of action to recove the premises was treated as having accrued at the latest by January 1978 and their right to recover the

premises became statute barred at the latest by January 1, 1978. Miss Hargreaves sought to strike out his action on the ground that it had no arguable hope of success. She said that the tenancy document was a "lease in writing within the meaning of paragraph

5(I) of Schedule I to the 1980 Act; that time accordingly did not begin to run when Mr Long stopped puying rent, whenever that was, but only when his tenancy was

reversionary lease.
His Lordship examined the history of the relevant law including the statutory precursors to the 1980 Act and the 1925 Act, the Statute of

He concluded that Mr Watter was right; that there was no "lease in writing" for the purposes of paragraph 5(i) if the writing, however comprehensively set out and clearly referable to the exis-

If there was to be a "lease in writing" the writing itself had to "pass an interest" and "operate as a lease" or "create an estate": see Doe d Landsell v Gower ((1851) 17 QB 589, 599, 6001 and Moses v Lovegrove [1952] 2 QB 533, 536,

The next question was whether the tenancy document, given that it was clearly not by deed, succeeded meaning of paragraph 5(i) unless it was dispositive, that is, a document which at law created, of and by itself, a leasehold estate in land. in operating in accordance with section 54(2) of the 1925 Act as a Further, that as the tenancy "lease taking effect in possession for a term not exceeding three years" and could therefore validly only if it fell within the exception in

be made by parol, or writing.
The problem was that the tenancy was not one "taking effect in possession". The tenancy document was executed on September 8, 1975 but the tenancy was not to commence immediately but rather on a future date, September 29, and Mr Long had no right to take possession until the latter date. Therefore, it took effect, if at all, as

a reversionary lease. Miss Hargreaver's counterargument was that the words "taking effect in possession" in section 54(2) were descriptive only of the quality of the lease at the date when the term commenced and not of the quality of the lease at the date of the parol grant; that the restrictions on the grant of rever-sionary leases were to be found in section 149 of the 1925 Act, and not in section 54(2). His Lordship preferred Mr Wal-

ter's argument. Reversionary leases conferring no immediate right to take possession were altogether excluded from the ambit of section 54(2) of the 1925 Act. Such reversionary leases could take effect only if made by deed.

Therefore, the tenancy which undoubtedly came into existence was not one created by the tenancy document but rather one which arose by operation of law, by the payment and receipt of rent.

Accordingly, there were no grounds to justify striking out Mr Long's claim. It might be that, at trial. Miss Hargreaves would succeed in making good one or other of the matters on which there were triable issues.
But she had failed to show, as

she had to if it was to be struck out at this stage, that Mr Long's claim was doomed to fail. He was entitled to go to trial to have his

claim determined. Solicitors: Wallace Bogan & Co. Bow; Mr Russell Power, Tower

order enforcing the indemnity between his clients and the receiv-

ers: hence neither of the registrars

had jurisdiction to make the orders

they had, directing the indem-

nifiers either to pay the receivers or

to pay money into a joint account.

allowed was for that court to be consulted, at the behest of receivers

or those responsible for their

appointment, as to the way they

should perform their functions, he submitted. To order the indem-

nifiers to pay any sum to the receivers was outside the court's

powers under the section, relating

to a private, contractual dispute.

suitable for an ordinary writ action, with pleadings in the

ordinary way.

in such a case, all that section

Receivers' payment order valid

Morris and Others v Lewis and Another

Before Mr Justice Laddie [Judgment March 22]

Section 35 of the Insolvency Act 1986 was drafted in wide terms and should be given scope wide enough to embrace any dispute concerning a receiver or manager's remuneration. Further, the section should be read as a whole; it followed that all those matters which could be the subject of an application under section 35(i) could be the subject of directions or a declaration under section 35(2) and vice versa.

Mr Justice Laddle so held in the Chancery Division when dismiss-ing an appeal by John Joseph Morris, Linda Morris and Butlean Ltd. the indemnifiers, against an order by Mr Registrar Simmonds of January 3, 1996, dealing with their application, pursuant to Order 2, rule 2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, to rescind, on the ground that it was unfair, an order of Mr Registrar Buckley, dated December 5, that they should pay £109,770 to Barry Lewis and Bhagu Mistry as joint admin-istrative receivers of Therma-Stor

Section 35 of the 1986 Act provides: "(1) A receiver ... of the property of a company appointed under powers contained in an instrument, or the persons by whom or on whose behalf a receiver... has been so appointed.

may apply to the court for directions in relation to any purticular matter arising in connection with the performance of the functions of

the receiver... "(2) On such application, the court may give such directions, or may make such order declaring the rights of persons before the court or otherwise, as it thinks

Mr Paul D. J. Marshall for the indemnisiers; Mr Andreas Gledhill for the receivers.

MR JUSTICE LADDIE said that prior to acceptance of their appointment, the receivers had obtained an indemnity from the indemnifiers for, inter alia, any costs fees and liabilities incurred by them in the administration. Unfortunately an insurance claim, believed valid for £217,000,

was likely to realise only £35,000. That gave rise to overall liabilities in the region of £110,000 and an originating application by the receivers to the companies court. under the provisions of section 35, for (i) directions as to compromis-ing various insurance claims; (ii) directions as to the indemnifiers providing sufficient funds to enble the receivers to complete and close their receivership; (ii) alter-natively, an order that the indemnifiers indemnify the receivers in respect of all liabilities arising from the receivership.

Mr Marshall had argued that

under section 35, the companies

However, his Lordship said that Mr Marshall had rightly conceded that subsection (2) was very wide, so that the court could have been invited to make a declaration that the indemnifiers were obliged to indemnify the receivers in respect of all receivership costs up to the date of the declaration. Further, after such a declaration was made inter partes the receivers could have applied for summary judgment in a writ action, claiming re-

Accordingly Mr Registrar Buckley had jurisdiction to make the

Solicitors: Barnett Alexander Chart; Isadore Goldman,

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the purchase by the Company of 54,039 of its "C" Ordinary Shares of £1 sects.

The Stationary Declaration of

MOTICE SHEREIT CIVEN PURSUANT IN SECTION 98 of the baselvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the officer of Leonard Curtis & Co. studied at 30 Eastbourne Terrace. Can Plant, Larison WP 647, on 16th April 1996 at 12 co. Tharmes Lodge Developments Lid NOTICE IS HEREEBY GIVEN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PROStrang Add 1985, that a need-ing of the unsectuary will led the a second of the unsectuary will led held at 84 Croovenor Street. London W1X 90F at 2.00pm on 11 April 1986 for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the reserve in the administrative Receivery under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks in, establish a minguillage is selected life functions of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks in, establish a minguillage is selected life functions configured on creditors' committees by or under the Act.

Croditors whose claims are wholly selected at not entitled to vote if:

They have delivered to us at 84 Orcevenor Street, London W1X 90F, no later than 12.00 ben on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, wriden duals of the debas thay claims in the due to them from the company, and the chaim has been quity admitted under the provisions of the Orke Striet in the insolvency than its continuous will be them from the company, and the chaim has been quity admitted under the provisions of the Orke Striet, London the Striet was selected to the said and the provisions of the Orke Striet in the insolvency than its continuous selected to the provisions of the Orke Striet in the Insolvency than its continuous selected to the selected the selected the selected the selected that the provisions of the Orke Striet in the Insolvency that it was a selected to the selected the sele Terracy, Case Fleeth, Leaven WE
6LF, on 16th April 1996 at 12.00
for the purposes envelope for in
factors 98 of the April 1996 at 12.00
A list of feature and sealingure at
the above company's creditors
the binspecied at the offices of
Leonard Christ & Co. PO Box
563.50 Eastbourne Terrace, Card.
Fleory, Lohon will 6LF, between
the hours of 10,00em to 4.00pm
on the two business once means. CAMERON TAYLOR
MEDFORD LASTED
NOTICE IS hereby given pureliand
to the Companies Act 1965, Secupon 176, mar at the Anniel Coerd Merting of the adeus manne
Company (the "Company these

of £44,311.90 out of capital for

pany, and the chrim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Sule 5.11 of the involvency main; 1986, and There has been lodged with us any procy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf. Dated 26 March 1996.

LA Manning,
Joint Administrative Roceiver

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to evallability. This offer excludes the Easter weekend and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.



That argument had been rejected and his Lordship formed the same Mr Nigel J. Ley for Mr Crosgrove; Mr John Oates for the

a three-minute period, there was no principle of law that a person STR IAIN GLIDEWELL said that the appellant had argued that since the Intoximeter provided a three-minute period before it shut down, then in every case a person

cluded that the person was falling to provide a specimen before the stop the procedure. Of course the lenged in court, but as a matter of law he was entitled to take that

Reference was made to DPP v Coyle (The Times July 20, 1995) Lord Justice Leggatt agreed. which had raised a somewhat similar, but not identical point: namely that the person not merely should be told of the three minutes

Although the machine provided

but should be told at the outset.

must necessarily be allowed the three minutes nor be told he ha three minutes at any stage of the If an administering officer con-

three minutes were up he could officer could subsequently be chal-

Solicitors: Byrne Frodsham & Co, Widnes: Crown Prosecution Service, Warrington.

State entitled to plead immunity Al-Adsani v Government of Kuwait and Others Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith,

Lord Justice Ward and Mr Justice

(Judgment March 12) The Government of Kuwait was entitled to state immunity under the State immunity Act 1978 in allegedly taken place in Kuwait. The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal brought by the plaintiff, Sulaiman Al-Adsani.

against the decision of Mr Justice Mantell on May 3, 1995 in which he held that the first defendant, the Government of Kuwait, was entitled to plead state immunity in respect of the plaintiff's claim. Mr John MacDonald, QC and Mr Owen Davies for the plaintiff: Mr Van V. Veeder, QC, Lady Fox, QC, Mr John Lockey and Miss Philippa Hopkins for the first

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said that the plaintiff was a British national and a citizen of Kuwait. At the time of the Gulf War the plaintiff was a member of the Kuwait Air Force and fought in

After Kuwait was invaded by Iraq, he remained behind as a member of the resistance movement. During that time he came into possession of certain video tanes which belonged to the second defendant, Sheikh Jaber Al-Sabah Al-Saud Al-Sabah, which were said to show embarrassing matter of a sexual nature.

The contents of the tapes became common knowledge which caused great offence to the second defendant who blamed the plaintiff for stealing them, together with valuables from his house. The second defendant was re-

lated to the Emir of Kuwait and was said to be influential in Kuwan. After the Iraqis were expelled, the second defendant, together with the third and fourth defendants, Sheikh Talal Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Saad Jasim Al-Saad, allegedly kidnapped the plaintiff and treated him with great cruelty. He was taken to a state security prison and beaten by security guards. For the purposes of the hearing

before the judge and in the Court of Appeal, and in order to determine the question of jurisdiction, it was

accepted that the first defendant was vicariously liable for the acts of the guards, although it denied any such conduct by the guards. Jurisdiction of the English court

in respect of foreign states was governed by the 1978 Act. The express words of section I provided immunity to the first defendant. Despite that, Mr MacDonald contended that the section had to be read subject to the implication that the state was only granted immunity if it was acting within the law

In international law, torture was a violation of a fundamental human right, it was a crime and a tort for which the victim should be behalf of the plaintiff was that international law against torture was so fundamental that it was a jus cogens, or compelling law, which overrode all other principle of sovereign immunity.

roposition but Mr MacDonald sought to draw comfort from two ges in the speech of Lord Diplock in Alcom v Republic of Columbia (1984) 1 AC 580, 597 and In his Lordship's judgment, however, that case made it clear that the 1978 Act was a comprehensive code and was not subject to overriding considerations. At com-

mon law a sovereign state could

not be sued at all against its will in

the courts of this country. The 1978

Act, by the exceptions it set out,

No authority was cited for that

marked substantial inroads into that principle. In his Lordship's judgment it was inconceivable that the draftsman, who must have been well aware of the various international agreements about torture, intended section I to be subject to an

overriding qualification.

Moreover, authority in the United States at the highest level was completely contrary to Mr Mac-Donald's submission: see Argentine Republic v Amerada Hess Shipping Corporation ((1989) 488 US 428) and Siderman de Blake v Republic of Argentine (11992) 965 F (2d) 699). Mr MacDonald submitted that their Lordships should not follow those persuasive decisions. His Lordship could not agree. When the matter came before

the Court of Appeal in 1994, on the

plaintiff's appeal from the refusal

of Sir Peter Pain to grant leave to

serve proceedings out of the juris-

diction pursuant to Order II of the Rules of the Supreme Court, those two cases were not cited. Had they been the result might well have been different and the court might have concluded that there was no good arguable case in relation to the events in Kuwalt.

A moment's reflection was enough to show that the practical consequences of the plaintiff's sub-mission would be dire. The loreign state would be unlikely to submi to the jurisdiction of the English court and in its absence the court would have no means of testing the claim or making a just determination.

Lord Justice Ward delivered a concurring judgment and Mr Jus-tice Buckley agreed. Solicitors: Bindman & Partners; Baker MacKenzie.

WESLEYAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY

NOTICE IS HEREBY CIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the above Society will be beld at the Head Office on Tuenday, 23 April 1996 at Members will be admixed only if they have atmitted the upo of 18 and presented the policies held by them have been paid to date. Certificates attendence, topics of the Ametal Report and Amounts for 1995 and Fro of Proxy for members tendin to attend on a variable to a application to map for 1995 and Peo

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED Interpretation in Canadia)
Copies of the Annual Report of the above Company for the year ended December 31 1995 are available and may be obtained from this office during normal becomes hours.

28 Navel 1996

LEGAL NOTICES FORSYTHE BYTERMATION Notice is hereby siven. Bursu and to Section 98 of the intol vency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the sector remode Company will be held at the offices of Asilina & Ch., Mouthview Court. 1/48 High Road. Whetens. London N20 ORA on the 12th day of April 1996 at 11.00 aim for the purposes Westlinder of the 12th day of April 1996 with 11.00 aim for the purposes Westlinder of the 12th day of April 1996 with 11.00 aim for the purposes westlinder of the 12th day of April 1996 at 11.00 aim for the purposes westlinder of the 1996 at 11.00 aim for the purposes westlinder of the 1996 at 11.00 aim for the purposes westlinder of the 1996 at 11.00 aim for the purposes we have the 1996 at 11.00 aim for the purposes we have the 1996 at 11.00 aim for the purposes we have the 1996 at 11.00 aim for the 1996 at 11.00 a Section 100 and 101 of the

Deleti this 22.03.1996. MR A J VAN ES. Officer

the AMC variable rate of For further details of AMC's

Tel: 01264 334747.

the directors of the Company and auditor's report required by the Commanter Act 1985 Section 173/5) are available for inspection at the theory of the contains the theory of the contains the contains and the contains the contains and the contain

tion at the Hesistered Utilice of the Company at 50 Owen Anna Street, London. Wild GHQ Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks instructually following 26th March 1996 apply to the Court under the Companies Act 1986, Section 176, for an order cursualitie, the Resolution or fer

Ince's restoration paints bright future

WHATEVER has become of our island race? The Empire was long ago released, but now we are bullied into submission over our fishing rights and dodgy beef by the fickle French and others in a supposed European Union. and it takes a Bulgarian to remind us that England might win a football championship.

I happen to agree with Dimitar Penec, the coach of the Bulgaria team beaten by England at Wembley, who said as much on Wednesday night. Playing at home, as in the World Cup in 1966, England have every reason to believe that they can reach the final of the European championship this summer. The metamorphosis of the team under Terry Venables, as it was under Alf Ramsey 30 years ago, is no less steady, if equally unspectacular.

Fundamental to the performance on Wednesday, in which the general shape of a coherent team began to emerge, was the return, after 13 months, of Paul Ince. Physically as tough and intimidating as Nobby Stiles yet, with a full set of his own teeth, less demonic in appearance, Ince-brought a stability that infected everyone around him.

I do not yearn for another Stiles, and there would be no benefit were Ince to bring discredit to the England shirt. Yet, if he has learnt in Italy to discipline the emotions that boil over as at Crystal Palace last season, the tenacity of his tactics, so reminiscent of Johan Neeskens, and the rapidity of his distribution will quicken the pulse and the fortunes of any England side.

Venables said that, with Ince's reintroduction, the team was tactically compact and had better shape. "The more we play, the better it'll be," he said. Let us remember that Venables has had only 14 matches as yet, a third of a League season, and has a winloss record of 7-1.

THE Russians are coming.

and the evidence of Wednes-

day night in Dublin was that

Onopko, Nikiforov, Mostovoi,

Kolyvanov and their col-

leagues will be an adornment

to the European champion-

If the quality of Russia's 2-0

win served to whet the appetite

for the summer, the lessons for

Mick McCarthy, the new Ire-

land manger, were harder. McCarthy could take real

pleasure from the emergence

of Shay Given, 19, the Black-

burn Rovers reserve goalkeep-

er, who played with

impressive composure and

ship finals.



Ince, who began rebuilding his England career with a powerful performance against Bulgaria at Wembley. Photograph: Marc Aspland

that Ramsey had in Banks, Wilson, Moore, Bobby Chariton and Greaves, and later Peters, Ball and Hurst, he does have a formation that is acquiring uncanny simi-

Stone on the right flank is as industrious as was Ball (or Coppell) from penalty area to penalty area; McManaman on the left may not have the intuition of Peters, but is more threatening with his dribbling and needs extended experience; Ferdinand brought an acceleration superior to Hurst,

Russian lesson for McCarthy

By PETER BALL

and Shearer, but needs to score the easy ones; and the level-paced Sheringham brought a flair to the supporting attacking role that might have upstaged even the 100 per cent Hunt.

I do not need reminding that Gascoigne, even if playing for 90 minutes rather than every other ten, is not Bobby Charlton. If it becomes undeniable that Gascoigne cannot last a whole match — already evident, many would say then McManaman can be switched to his normal pos-

Barmby introduced on the left. So, there is all to play for.

Ramsey's formation fell into shape only in December 1965, against Spain in Madrid, and did not give cause for public optimism until Poland were beaten in Katowice in the last match before the World Cup

Nor is there much substance to the allegation that Bulgaria came to Wembley without ambition. They may have been negative in the first half, but they competed aggressively for possession. When Borimirov replaced

RUSHDEN and Diamonds

lordanov in midfield, they became, under the direction of the ubiquitous Lechkov, a potent force which may make nonsense of the bookmakers' long odds come June.

England's comparative de-cline in the second half arose partly because of Gascoigne's ading contribution, partly because the front four -Stone, Sheringham, Ferdinand and McManaman - did not drop into a possessiongame, eliminating the optimistic pass or move, allowing the Bulgaria midfield to gain

Although Southgate was horribly exposed late in the match, saved only by Seaman's competence and a handling offence by Borimirov immediately before what would have been an equal-ising goal by Kostadinov, he might be preferred to Pallister, Southgate being a more constructive defender with the ball. Further exposure to Adriatic/Balkan skills, against Croatia next month, should confirm the advance of a team and a coach in whom few have so far placed

Rushden set transfer record

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

sureness on his debut. Mark Kennedy, also 19, had his moments, too, while Roy Keane was a powerful performer until he betrayed himself with the stupid kick in the dying moments that brought his dismissal. That, presumably, was not what McCarthy

"Keane led by example". As well as by individual performances, the manager also said that he was encouraged by the second-half performance that saw his team create a number of clear

opportunities.

Overall, though, the gap in

class was yawning. "They are what we are striving to be," Alan Kernaghan, the defender, said. It will take some time to achieve that end. McCarthy followed the season's trend with three central defenders and asked his team to pass the ball. It gave a new sheen, but it was impossible to hide a fairly had in mind when he said basic model underneath the surface polish.

"We showed in the second half that we can compete passing the ball around," Mc-Carthy said, although Ireland looked most dangerous, and the Russians at their least composed, when the ball was lofted into the box towards Quinn and Cascarino. "It is strange." Jason McAteer said. "but I felt we created our best chances in the second half when we fell back at times to the old way of doing things."

yesterday broke the transfer record between non-League clubs when they signed Carl Alford from Kettering Town for £85,000. The Beazer Homes League leaders had tried to sign Alford, 24, in December, but the England semi-professional international forward decided to stay

Roger Ashby, the Rushden manager, said: "At the time, he was looking to play in the Football League and we respected that decision. We went back to Kettering on Wednesday night and asked if he was still available. They said yes and he was happy to come."

at Rockingham Road.

Alford, who has scored 22 goals in the Vauxhall Conference this season, has signed a 24-year contract and clearly

anticipates that his drop in status will be short-lived. He goes into the side tomorrow for a match against Halesowen Town, the secondplaced side, with Rushden six points ahead with two matchin hand.

Ashby said: "He's scored 70 goals in the past three scasons. For somebody so young. he's got a lot of talent about him. He's an investment for the future of the club. We want him to take us into the Football League and I'm certain he will help us to achieve that aim."

Stevenage Borough, the Conference leaders, shaken by their 2-l defeat at Hednesford Town on Mooday that ended their 17-match unbeaten run, recruited four players: David Howell, the former coach at Birmingham

City. Alan Paris, from Slough Town, Neil Trebble, a former Stevenage player, from Scarborough, and Andy Ansah, from Peterborough United.

Woking, whose fourth successive win — 2-1 away to Telford United on Tuesday moved them to within four points of the leaders having played a match more, signed Darren Adams, a forward, from Cardiff City, on loan. Their credentials will be tested by their next three matches. against Hednesford (home). Macciesfield Town (home)

and Stevenage (away).
Only two clubs are expected to be relegated from the Conference after the National Joint Liaison Committee ruled that there was not a suitable candidate for promotion from the UniBond

Equine valour bridges the gap between east and west

n Tuesday, Nad Al Sheba racecourse, in Dubai, consisted of the excellent mile-and-a-half circuit of bespoke packed sand, the club - with viewing terraces on ground and first floor and an Arabian grandstand which seems small, lacking in depth, until you remember that they need make no provision for Totalisator (Muslims are not per-mitted to gamble), bars (ditto drink) or hog-roasts (pork is

What they have - and we do not - is a lawn where racegoers face east, kneel down and pray for divine guidance before selecting the six horses for their one, free jackpot ticket, an activity upon which Allah appears to smile. It took God six days to create

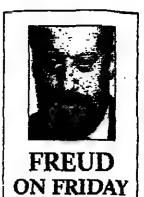
the world. Between Tuesday lunchtime and Wednesday morning, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum had translated Nad Al Sheba into a massive arena replete with floodlights, flags, a 100-seat press centre, marquees to seat thousand diners, a tented village, a family enclosure, batteries of television screens. parksful of golf trolleys serving as Sheikh-mobiles and 150 white-robed security men who

made us realise that the motif on our badges is no more than a stepping stone on the way to VVIP status accorded the people

sands' who matter. Dubai The World Cup, the richest race ever staged, brought three competitors from the United States, two from Great Britain, one each from Australia and Japan to take on the quartet of stars from the home country . . . and for the architect of this theatre, there was a nightmare scenario: were the Maktoum horses to fill the first three places, the likelihood that foreign owners would never again send their horses thousands of energysapping miles to do battle in the desert on a surface to which no other thoroughbred

An estimated 15,000 people turned up and the nightmare never looked like becoming reality. In the dramatic, floodlit contest that denied the home crowds supplication, the Emirates' best contestant was Tamayaz, in fifth place, comprehensively beaten by three Americans and one English rival. A disappointing result for

the Sheikh, said the pundits. When his Highness sits down to consider the matter, he is likely to feel that the cost of around £10 million (some of it spent on me) is a bargain sum to promote Dubai to the status of leading player in world racing — which it assumed with Cigar's victory. This cannot occur without some displacement at the top.



Thursday, Aintree. The bestknown, biggest betting race in the world has two warm-up days featuring well-rewarded contests. Tomorrow, there will be a nine-figure television audience with a crowd of 60,000.

On the first day of the meeting, about a third of that number turned up and the difference between devout Muslims imploring divine intervention and the noisy bustle of flat-vowelled, hard-drinking citizens is as if Kipling were right.

There is little racing at Aintree, but that on offer is special and joyous to behold: racegoers is peculiar to this

ing between bar, paddock, book-'Sent to do makers and vanbattle on tage point. At Liverpool, wherever they walk, they the desert walk with a will. It is hugely im-

> overall pattern of National Hunt racing that the Grand National retains its place as the handicap of the year. Ask 100 citizens about this event and they remember four happenings - three of them disasters: Devon Loch's 100-1 victory after mayhem at the 23rd fence and Captain Brown's 1993 cock-up at the start. On the credit side is Red

The dream scenario for tomorrow is an absence of animal-rights campaigners, a race free of fatalities and a winner who will catch the public imagination. for we need another hero who will go on to open garden fêtes and supermarkets.

Party Politics, the only runner with a positive National record (one win, one second) might be such an animal: the tallest horse in training, handsome with a medical record that would dissuade Bupa from according him membership. His fear tomorrow might be a high wind, for one of his many operations involved the insertion of a metal pipe in his throat

Unlike Dubai, racegoers would be wise to watch the west, for there is a likely trio from Ireland: my money is on Life of a Lord, I backed Cigar,

THE TIMES

Save £35 on tickets to see the Broncos

opportunity to buy a season ticket for the London Broncos home games for £75, saving £35 off the normal season ticket price of £110. Super League rugby is a fast, exciting sport all the family can enjoy with entertainment before the kick-off and at half-time. And their base, at Charlton Athletic football club's ground. The Valley, in southeast London, has good public transport connections and car parking. With your season ticket you get: reserved seats for 11 home games (including two FREE games) • a commemorative T-shirt ■ London Broncos cap

THE London Super League rugby season kicks off next weekend and The Times is offering readers the

 no queueing for tickets Forward Darren Shaw, above, has played for the London Broncos, who can trace their roots back to Fulham, for three years. He also played for Scotland in the World Cup and Super League Nines.

CALL THE SEASON TICKET CREDIT CARD HOTLINE 0181 776 6670



SENCERE 2.10 Blown A Fuse. 2.45 Eriny, 3.20 Final Hope, 3.55 Solba. 4.30 Bitacrack, 5.00 Dear Emily. Carl Evans: 3.20 Final Hope. GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

2.10 STONEGRAVE AGGREGATES NOVICES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (52.129: 2m 5l 110vd) (18 numers)
HAMDICAP HUMDLE (E2,129: 2m 5i 110yd) (18 numers) 1 -605 EMALVADORE 69 P Beaumont 5-11-10
7-2 Blown A Fuse, 6-1 Sonso, 7-1 Killochsade Lad, 8-1 Emilymoore, Clover Girl, 10-1 Goldmare, 12-1 others.

2.45 JOHN JOYCE HANDICAP HURDLE (52,909: 2m 1f) (11)

3-1 Gronugio, 9-2 Enchanted Cottage, Any Dream Would Do, 6-1 Erlmy, 7-1 Tresides, 6-1 Superhoo, 12-1 Latin Leader, 16-1 others.

3.20 STANLEY THOMPSON MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE (Amaleurs: £2,180; 3m 3f) (9) 1 -U33 BOREEN OWEN 6P (CD,6,5) D Harrison 12-11-9

2-1 Final Hope, 5-2 Avergh Lat, 9-2 Quayside Cottage, 8-1 Politico Pat, 10-1 Boreen Owen, 12-1 Fish Quay, 14-1 Queen's Chaptaya, 25-1 offices.

3.55 SEDGEFIELD CHAMPION HOVICES CHASE 1 2111 SOLBA 10 (C.F.6.5) C Parker 7-12-0 B Storey R

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3	-251	SALMAN 132 (D.F.S.) Nos V Ward 10-11-8 D Parter 82
4	जनज	WEAVER GEORGE 24 (C.F.G) J Hollers 6-11-8 M Braceau (C)
5	0660	BOETHRUS 105 F Walton 7-11-2 TRend -
6	FP-P	CARDINAL SINNER 4 J Wade 7-11-2
7	-POF	COOLRENY 13 V Thompson 7-11-2 Wr M Thompson \$1
	8604	GULER-A 7 R Craggs 8-11-2 N Smith 85
9	5563	QUARTZ HILL 116 D Lamb 7-11-2 A Mariners -
10	3223	REBEL KING 10 (6) M Barses 6-11-2
11	-P05	WELL BANK 24 H Alexander 9-11-2 F Leady 68
12	UP/P	OVER THE ISLAND 31 J Johanna 8-10-11 M Foster -
		BALL TENDER SF M W Easterby 5-10-8 J Driscoll -
745	cibe. 7	-2 Weaver George, 9-2 Pagiliaccio, 5-1 Salman, 8-1 Rabel King, 16-1 1 others
	_	

4.30 REG AND REDLEY LAMB MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,115. 2m 5f) (12) 11-4 Houghton, 9-2 Bitacrack, 6-1 Farmer's Hand, 7-1 Twin States, 8-1 Bearding School, Son Df Iris, 14-1 Positive Action, 16-1 others

5.00 JUMP INTO SPRING NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES 1 223 ALAS CHUBB 216 (BF) Mrs 5 Smith 5-11-2 ... R Goost 89
2 2640 CAMPTOSAURUS 105 D Alder 7-11-2 ... D Parker (3) 69
3 P-4 MCK THE BEL 143 J Water 5-11-2 ... N Jones 4 RO44 NUMMY 10 M Barnet 6-11-2 ... P Watgordt 98
5 00-6 TRANSCH-DUSTMAL 23 J Outhor 6-11-2 ... W D Wan 6 - OPR TLRSSAL 9 T Dommely 7-11-2 ... B Storey 7 P440 DEAR SHULY 31 J Swites 8-10-11 ... Mr N Withinson 8 /00- LOGAM 385 D Notan 8-10-11 ... D Withinson 9 0005 XAMPTE 44 G Moore 4-10-8 ... J Callaghan 93
0 2006 DM Mrs 1 Brown 4-10-8 ... J Callaghan 93
10 70 CRAMBELLA 13 G Nolly 4-10-8 ... L Callaghan 95
11 PO CRAMBELLA 13 G Nolly 4-10-8 ... Mr P Montay (7) ...
12 PP FINER REELINGS 11 J Warnertyld 4-10-3 ... Mr P Montay (7) ...
7-2 Xampte. 9-2 Alass Chubb .5-1 Camptessaurus Dowr Emily 7-1 Mrser 4-1 7-2 Xapetr. 9-2 Altes Chubb, 5-1 Camplessarus, Dear Emily, 7-1 Niyety, 8-1 Transcenderfal, 14-1 Logani, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRABERS: H Oliver, 4 writtes from 8 names, 52,0%, Mrs M Reveley, 73 from 248, 29,4%, Highers, 16 from 83, 19,3%, F Storey, 3 from 16, 18,6%, P Beaument, 17 from 92, 18,5%, 6 M Moore, 21 from 139, 15.1% JOCKEYS: Jacqui Olmer, 6 witners from 13 rides, 46.2%, B Graffan, 3 from 17, 17.5%, J Callaghan, 19 from 120, 15.5%, F Leally, 6 from 41, 14.6%, D Williamson, 7 from 50, 14.0%; R Marley, 5 from 40, 12.5%.

☐ Brigadier Roscoe Harvey, the National Hunt owner-breeder, died yesterday at his Gloucestershire home, aged 95. From 1951 until his retirement in 1969, he was the Senior Steward's secretary for the Jockey Club.

THORSANS 2.15 Mim-Lou-And, 2.50 Too Sharp, 3.25 Martel Spirit. 4.00 Monks Jay. 4.35 Dusky Rover. 5.05 in The Rough. 5.35 Phardante's Way.

2.15 LEINTHALL JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE 9-4 Mitri-Lou-And, 3-7 Roy Boy, 9-2 Highly Charming, 5-1 Ketchican, 12-1 Prince Of Spades, 16-1 Atzoomo, 25-1 others 2.50 MIDDLETON NOVICES CHASE (£2,879: 2m 4f) (7)

1 424F HERBERT BUCHAMAN 10 (F) P Richolfs 6-11-9 Mr J Calloty (5)
2 2-0F BOLD DOLPHIN ST Frazisch 6-11-2 S Wymm
3 PPY HARBOW WAY 761 Weits 6-11-2 S Michell
4 6400 MASTER MURPHY 29 C Broad 7-11-2 R Farrant
5 -PBS MISST FAMICY 13 Mrs A Woodrow 8-11-2 JA McCarthy
5 900 P PASDD LAD 18 (5) W Burry 9-11-1 M 80-60-7
7 0-33 TOO SHARP 24 (F.6) Mrs M Knight 8-10-11 JF Titley S-4 Too Starp, 3-1 Bold Dolphes, 9-2 Herbert Bechacen, 8-1 Might Fancy, 10-1 Placul Lad, 14-1 Master Murphy, 25-1 Harrow Way.

3.25 WHITTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,556: 2m 5l 110yd) (18)

2,556: 2m 5! 110yd) (18)

1 29-3 RUILAND GATE 153 (3) 6 Baking 9-11-13 R Greene
2 -000 WYNGBPRG 17 (F) T Forser 5-1-12 S Wynne
3 202 COOWELL STEPTOE 23 Mass H Ringht 6-11-9 J F Tatey
4 405 CHARITY CRUSANER 23 Mas M Reveloy 5-11-8 9 Cahill (5)
5 500 ROMALITO 22 (8) M Blanstand 6-11 S McNeil
6 034 POLY SCREEN 13 C Smith 5-11-2 S Carler (7)
7 PO-0 GO FROLIC 41 Miss C Philips 9-11-1 A Thornton
8 6P-0 RELAXED LAD 104 J PROXING 7-11-1 R Bullamy
9 27/3 MARRELL SPRIT 16 (G-S) P Hobbs 9-11-0 G Turney (3)
10 -355 CAPTAN COE 22 R Curlin 6-0-10 J Turney (3)
11 500 YOUNG LUCKY 55 J ANSIDES 5-10-11 J LEBCH
12 -005 RIVERBANK ROSE 22 W City 5-10-11 Suy Lewis (3)
13 GP4 SPANS | BLAZE RET WIT M Imms 8-10-10 D Byrne
14 R-11 NORTH BARNISTER 25 F.6.S.) T McGowen 9-10-8 15 PPPS RADIO CAROLINE 27 M Tate 5-10-2 JR Kavaragh 16 00-0 MARRERS COVE 27 G Storad 8-10-0 G Hogan (3) 17 5094 SCEPTICAL 13 J Stores 8-10-0 G Hogan (3) 18 00-F PLEASURE CRUSE 134 J Cressed 6-10-0 R Massey (5) 2 Martel Spirt, 5-1 Ruttaci Gate, 6-1 Coursel Storage (4)

7-2 Martell Spirit, 5-1 Rutiand Gale, 6-1 Commit Stephoe, 8-1 Houth Bermisler. 18-1 Rhentzeit Rose, 12-1 Wynberg, Chandy Chusader, 14-1 others SUNKERED FIRST TIME: Aintree: 3.45 Quick Rapor Lingfield Park: 4.05 Eastleigh, Ludlow: 4.35 Qwn Arctic Sedgefield: 2.10 Dashmar, Kind Prince,

4.00 ORLETON HANDICAP CHASE 2.5,144; ZITI 44) (6) 1 P403 MEYANA EXELD 20 (D.F.8.5) F Yerdley 10-12-0... A Thorston 2 2115 EARLY GRANDER (6.5) 6 Shaking 10-11-2.... A Tory 3 0000 FAR BROTHER 8 (6.5) 6 Shaking 10-11-2...... A Tory 4 444 LITTLE TIMI 107 (D.F.6.5) 15 Nog 11-11-1... J R Revenants 5 522- HOWGIL 384 (F.6) T Forster 10-11-0....... 8 Wyrane 6 6512 MCROS JAY 13 (C.BF.6.) 6 Thomes 7-10-8... MF 2 Cultony (5) 7 2018 WESHAMER E 15 JAF.A Woodrow 13-10-0.... 6 HOSDIN (3) 8 UPPO CLOWN ARCURD 16 (F.J. Husby 8-10-0........ M Sharratt

8-4 Early Crisise, 5-2 Monata Gold, 7-2 Monts, Juy, 5-1 Little Tom, 7-1 Hongill, 8-1 Pegmarine, 12-1 others. 4.35 GREETE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

2-1 Veryes, 3-1 On So Handy, 5-1 Dusty Rover, 7-1 Popper, 8-1 Silver Aga. Phaedair, 10-1 Fastyres, 14-1 Others.

5.05 KNOWBURY INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div I: \$1,347: 2m) (12)

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5.35 KNOWBURY INTERMEDIATE OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: £1,336: 2m) (11) ONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (DIV N. £1,336; 2m) (11)

ARCTIC TRILMPH M Bradstock 5-51-4 P Holley

FOLLOW DE CALL 154 D McCain 6-11-4 D McCain
KINGSLAND TAVERMER O Sterwood 5-11-4 A Romano
MR BOLANGLES K Baley 5-11-4 A Romano
PHARDANTES WAY D Nicholson 5-11-4 R Massey (3)

30- REOWING 308 T Holland-Martin 6-10-13 J R Kovarnagh
GREY DANTES Brookshaw 5-10-13 Mr R Thornton (7)
MAD FOR ADMETTURE Mics H Ninght 5-10-13 G F Ryan (3)

O LIDEN DAYS 34 G Thorner 4-10-10 Clare Thornes (7)
SEVEN WELLS J PROMOCH 4-10-10 R Bellamy

MOLLIE SELVERS 69 J Cresswell 4-10-5 G Tommey (3)

Mad For Admenting 3-1 Phontonian's Way 9-2 Kinestand Tavermer 5-1 Mr

3-2 Maid For Adventure, 3-1 Phantanie's Way, 9-2 Kingstand Toverner, 5-1 Mil Bojangles, 8-1 Modie Sibrers, 16-1 Filametrg, 12-1 Olden Days, 16-1 others **COURSE SPECIALISTS** TRANSERS: D Micholson, 24 winners from 87 numers, 27 6%; A Bailey, 14 from 55, 25.5%; Mrs M Reveley, 3 from 15, 20.0%, P Hobbs, 10 from 53, 18.9%, T Forsite, 12 from 70, 17.1%; Miss H Knight, 10 from 63, 15.9%. JOCKEYS: R Massey, 4 winners from 16 rides, 25 0%, A Thomson, 7 from 41, 17.1%; J R Kaveragh, 7 from 53, 13.2%; S McNettli, 6 from 49, 12.2%. Only qualifiers

المكذا من الأصل

Joe White heads black day for backers

TO RECALL that Joe White once broke Norman Williamson's thigh after a difference of opinion might be to summon images of a bar-room brawl. The reality is that the incident at Sedgefield in October prefaced a shock victory over Aintree's fearsome fences. Williamson's season has

been ravaged by a sequence of injuries, the first of which saw him shatter his femur in a fall from Joe White five months ago. But the gelding appeared a reformed character in the John Hughes Memorial

He jumped with rare precision before a late surge carried him past Go Universal by the scantest of heads. With Mugoni Beach just a neck further back in third, the finish was more in keeping with a five-furlong sprint.

Joe White's improbable victory should awaken punters to the possibilities of the Aintree birch. Many are inclined to reduce the Grand National to a handful of prime candidates. They may wish to revise their views after Joe White, defying odds of 33-1, prevailed from 14lb out of the handicap.

In this race alone, the fancied Old Bridge and Tudor Fable both fell — the latter at the first fence, while Toursen Prince, the outright favourite, beat only one home. Surprise is the essence of Aintree and there was plenty to ponder

You could not help but sympathise with the connections of Go Universal, who led

2.00 Simply Dashing

2.35 Viking Flagship

Carl Evens: 3.45 Rolling Ball.

(Grade II; £14,378; 2m 4f) (12 runners)

2.35 HUMM MELLING CHASE

(Mildmay course: grade I: £49,380: 2m 4f) (4 runners)

3.10 MUMM MILOMAY NOVICES CHASE (Mildmay course: grade II £23,656, 3m 1f) (7 runners)

BETTING, 13-8 Klevron Davis, 7-4 Sound Mirr. 9-4 Villing Flugstop, 16-1 Coulton

2.00 MARTELL MERSEY HOVICES HURDLE

3.10 Avro Anson

COMG: GOOD



The winner, Scotton Banks (left), and Barton Bank jump the final fence together in the Martell Cup Chase at Aintree vesterday

throughout until collared at the death. But the low, crouching style of the winning rider was instantly discernible as that of Paul Carberry. As Williamson plumbs the depths of injury, Carberry, 22. rides the waves on their crest.

"I was pleased just to get round, never mind win the race," the modest jockey said. Several progeny of famous riders have struggled to emerge from the shadows but Carberry has flourished in this, his first full season in

4.20 BLAZE AWAY (nep)

4.50 Top Cees 5.20 High Padre

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating; 2.00 SHMPLY DASHING.

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

8 II. 214,070, 2011 417 (12 TUMENTS)
3111 NDEFENCE 17 (S) (Indef Ltn) Mrs J Pirran 5-11-11
11111 SIMPLY DASHING 41 (COLF, 6.5) (S Hammand) T Entirity 5-11-7
6-07106 ASTAYALL BOY 17 (6.5) (A S Racing) P Hobbe 5-11-3
401320 DJAS 16 (D.S) (T Long) J Jackers 7-11-3
5421 HODDED HANK 42 (D.G) (C Hammy H Hambarson 5-11-3
6-23124 JACK TARNER 16 (S) (Lony Hancs) D Micholson 7-11-3
5-1324 JACK TARNER 16 (S) (Lony Hancs) D Micholson 7-11-3
5-13314 ESCARTERIBUE 15 (S) (D Marcari M Pion 4-11-2
14-2310 SLYEN STRIED 17 (F,S) (D Marcari M Pion 4-11-2
14-2310 SLYEN STRIED 17 (F,S) (M Hayman) O Shirmond 4-10-8
03 STRIENT CHARMER 48 (G) (Sixty Halling Plans) E Matin 4-10-8
03 STRIENT CHARMER 48 (G) (Sixty Halling Plans) E Matin 4-10-8
05 STRIENT CHARMER 48 (G) (Sixty Tarner 4-10-6.

BETTING: 5-2 todelesca. 3-1 Striply Cashing. 9-2 Jack Tarrier, 6-1 Escatelique, 8-7 Albine Dances, 10-1 others 1995: TERVEL 4-10-8 C Stage (4-1) J Peacon 10 mm

FORM FOCUS

INDEPENCE band kiramanciay 81 in grade I Chronn
Suprama Novices, Hurdie 21 Chellusham (2m
110yd, good to sell) with ASHWELL BOY (816
better offi RM I St. SEVER SHRED (806 batter) ALTRIE CHANCER band Logiste 21 in
27 ht Summit VOLSHMES beel JACK TAMBER
(5th wome off) 31 in novice hurdie at Wannes (2m)

1986: VHUNG FLAGSHEP 8-11-10 A Magane (5-2) D Micholson & ran

FORM FOCUS

COULTON beat Americ Egness 61 in grade 8 Desert Orbid Hardicap Chiese at Windcanton (2m 5), brin) best Easy Buch 141 in grade 1 Corest Chares at Ascol (2m 31 110 vt., good to soil) ou princifemble start. Chesterbarn (2m, good to soil) with SOURID MAIN Selection.

INDIVIDUAL S., GROUD II 223,030, 301 TI J / 104 KB3/ 1121U1 ADDRESTON BOY 27 (D.F.E.S.) (Soft Foods List) & Richards 8-11-19 B Handley 98 F1-111 HEL OF TULLOW 75 (F.G.) & Switcht M Camacho 8-11-7 M Dwyer 90 F13-15P LENDENS LOTTO 18 (F.F.S.S.) (Condeste Resing Cably J Wither 7-11-7 L Wyer 90 12-315P LENDENS LOTTO 18 (F.F.S.S.) (Condeste Resing Cably J Wither 7-11-7 L Wyer 90 F2-315P ACT THE WAS 31 (F.G.) & Dodard A Turnall 7-11-4 M A Pizgerabl 97 P7-131F JESSER 116 (SESSER 15 (SF.S.) (J Witchard, West J Provant 7-11-4 M A Pizgerabl 97

BETTING: 9-4 JAN On Turkow, 7-2 Actington Boy, Auro Areson "Jobes The Kabes, 12-1 Act The Wag, 14-1 others.

1995; BANJO 5-11-6 A Dunwoody (6-4 lav) M Proc 4 can

ADDINGTON BOY best Merry Master 51 in 12trainer handscap chase at Doncastes (2m 21, good)
AVRD ANSON best Rupting (61 in 8-numer netwoor
trainer of Doncastes (3m, good) HILL ON TRULLOW
best Go Balkstic tel in 9-numer netwice chase at it is consisted (2m 41 110yd, good in soil) ins
best Go Balkstic tel in 9-numer netwice chase at it.

Selection: ARREER THE SUBBER

Britain. The son of Tommy, who landed the 1975 Grand National on L'Escargot, Carberry is transfixed by this unique circuit even though his first taste of it left him badly

bruised six years ago. "I weighed seven stone and my horse carried 13," Carberry said. "I'd never completed in three previous rides, but my father used to train Joe White. He told me just to sit still and not ask the horse. I think he must have been tired when he fell with Norman William-

3.45 MARTELL POX HUNTERS CHASE

these cheen in white PROFESSOR LOWER-ARE (3th below off) 201 3ms CARRY DAWN best (3th below off) 201 3ms CARRY DAWN best Westwide 3 m (1 chieve hunder classe at Newcasile (3re, good to soft) REFERSOR ORGHEN 13% 3rd of 17 to Elegant Lord in Christies Featurines. Chase at Chetimiteam (3m 2f 110pd, good) with CLARE. MAIN 101 7th, THE SIRIO O'DOWNELL 2f 6th and EARLYDILE 201 10ph OMER THE CLARE was ON

(Grade I: £18,916: 3m 110yd) (17 runners)

4.20 BELLE EPOQUE SEFTON NOVICES HURDLE

THE SHEET LET ID-17-5 X HAI G-1) W Names & ma

FORM FOCUS

BETTRIO 7-2 Tumpie, 9-2 Prometr, 11-2 Superior Reis, 8-1 Faller Ste, Welley Wender, 12-1 Blaza Aumy, Bucknance Boy, Buttercup Joe, 14-1 Arthrecis, 16-1 Pleasers Stated, 20-1 others

1005- LADRICANS HAVINDER D-CT-I P HINE! 15-11 Lim V Routin 15 cm

ARTHMETIC best New Y Zaped set in 19urana randez burde at Nandary (2m 54, good to
soil). BLAZE AMAY bur Furetto 81 on novice
hardle at Doncaster (2m 41, good to 1800).
BUCHOUSE 807 1994 5th of 24 to Underston 18 on novice
hardle at Doncaster (2m 41, good to 1800).
BUCHOUSE 807 1994 5th of 24 to Underston 1800, SHARED (8th worse oil) 23 this valid (16th
overse oil) 281 th WHARE (16th overse oil) 294 to novice hardle at
bortly with BUTTEFICUP JUE 394 7th and COTTERY YEAR 12 5th BUTTEFICUP JUE bust Dass
31 in novice hardle at Rempton (2m 51, good to
soil novice hardle at Rempton (2m 51, good to
soil no prendermate stat with FATHER SAY (5th
better oil) 4134 5th and BLAZE AWAY 1754 7th.
BATTER SAY 18 hard of 5 to 5m Mare Business or
grade & Tolwards Hardle at Sandown (2m 81, good)

Selection: TUPPOLE (exp)

son) because he is a very safe jumper."
This was Carberry's 36th

winner of a campaign that has brought havoc to the jockeys' fraternity. There was a sting in the tail for the Irishman, who injured his knee 35 minutes later when Edelweis Du Moulin slipped up on the flat in the Glenlivet Anniversary Novices' Hurdle. Carberry's resumption is dependent on him passing the racecourse doctor this morning.

STREET ACT COME SHOW AND A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE BOTH O

Edelweis Do Moulin would have struggled to cope with Zabadi. The David Nicholsontrained four-year-old relished circumstances which allowed him to utilise his speed to demoralise Our Kris by six easy lengths. On an afternoon of haffling results, this was a comprehensive reversal of Zahadi's defeat in the Triumph Hurdle.

Tragic Hero, who finished twelfth in that Cheltenham contest, made the most of a from his elders to spring another surprise in the opening Seagram Novices' Hurdle The eclipse of those prominent at Cheltenham could not be better illustrated than by Couldnt Be Better's compre hensive defeat in the Martell Cup. Third in the Gold Cup. Charlie Brooks's chaser was ignominiously pulled up be hind Scotton Banks, who jumped more fluently than

Barton Bank. The winner has Cheltenham Gold Cup aspira-

Gong on which horse has wen (P — firm, good to sait, hanny). Owner on brackets. Transer Age and height Relief piles are allowance. The Times Preside Handicapper's stong.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Huncheon Chance (4.50 Aintree) Next best: Tarapole

3.10: Hill Of Tullow by-

3.45: Rolling Ball must be the choice despite a question mark over his ability to jump the National fences (Carl Evans writes). He beat Double Silk impressively at Warwick, clearly retains ability and will lack for nothing from his rider, Richard Ford. Sheer Jest beat Brown Windsor and Dark Dawn in this race last year, while Ireland's Kerry Orchid was third to Elegant Lord at

es have not shown peak form for some time. Morgans Harbour has run only once this term, while Strong Medicine and High Padre disappointed on their latest outings. It may prove best to side with Pashto, who displayed his wellbeing with a good win at Wincanton earli-

er this month and should

relish this longer trip.

I Mational Course: artialistis: £15.045: 2m 60) (27 runners) 15062 AS YOU WERE 13P (F.6) (0) Paracont J labor 14-12-0 15072 SOUTH WILSON 15 BLD F.S.) (1) Seat And J labor 14-12-0 15072 SOUTH WILSON 15 BLD F.S.) (1) Seat And J labor 14-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (0) Marging M Trease-1 Darks 9-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. M. Appletr) M Appleby 7-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. M. Appleby) M Appleby 7-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. M. Appleby) M Appleby 7-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. M. Appleby) M Appleby 7-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. M. Appleby) M Appleby 7-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 15 (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 15 (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 15 (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 15 (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Product 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12-0 15072 DARROWS 12P (G. S.) (M Internity D Resident 13-12 GUIDE TO DUR IN-LINE RACECARD Racecará member: Sa-ligure tento (F.—Inil., P.—pulled up: U.—unacetael rider., B.—branghi dover, S.—siepael up: H.—edurant. D.—dacqualifició., Hamer's nome. Deps since lest eclung: F il tax. (B.—blintons V.—visor. H.—brod. E.—Beschald. C.—course witner. D.—distance witner: CD—course and distance 4.50 орвинк чанотсар ниявые SETTRIC: 7-2 Rolling Ball, 4-1 Shoer Just, 9-2 Kerry George, 8-1 Carls Dawn, 13-1 The Best O'Donnell, 14-1 Brown Washer, Class Nac, Stretchistopesis, Lat. 16-1 Jacoberg, On The Other Hand, Santhern Microsoft, 20-1 others. Williams with MASS to be on the Williams is been in the CTHER HAND (7th beings off) fell in 4-course surprise of with ULLSWATER SO 7th CARE HAND to Somply Princed So as 4-course to the order of the course of the

Long Rendicapy Dates The Fell S-12, Negloop Wooder 9-11, Rich Life 9-7 1985: SOURE SILK 0-11-0 S Medical (16-1) A Toront 22 cm

SOMFAD M 2m of 10 is Thinking Times or Immore to Immore any hardle at Chapestow (2m 4x 110yds, sorth on pervelorate start with NEEDWOOD) MILPPET (15th better off) about 6 sth. BARNA BDV about 31st 4th at 10 miles in the part of 15 miles of 10 miles and 15 miles and

5.20 PERRIER JOUET HANDICAP CHASE (Midmay course: \$10,796: 3m 10) (8 ranners)

SETTIME: 3-1 Pastin, 4-1 Margans Hadron, 5-1 High Pade, 6-1 Sweep Medicine, 7-1 Tatan Tradewords, 8-1 All For Luck, Ellie Reg., 15-1 Observy Boy 1986: FLASHTHECASH 9-10-3 J Cabonn (9-2) C Egation 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

PASHTO beat Larry's Land 3f or 7-remon handlesp chase at Varieties (2m 2, good) on principles at Vincanton (2m 2, good to from) MOR-GAMS HARBOUR 17 and short-hand 3rd of 6 to Greenbell face Away to handlesp handles of Chebenham (2m 2, good) ELITE PES lead recent within beat His Hare Year 23 in neurons handlesp handles (2m 2m) and the Hare Year 23 in neurons handlesp chase at Harboury (2m 4, said). HIGH PADRY best recent effort hand his University (2m 2, good) to first 12 to Vanical it in handlesp chase at Harboury (2m 10 for 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Harboury (2m 10 for 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m) and the Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m) and the Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m) and 10 for 2m). The Harboury 2 in 5-rums shortlesp chase at Varieties (2m) and 10 for 2m) and 10

RACELINE FASTER ACCESS TO THE ACTION AND REMEABER CALL CHARGED PRE SECOND AINTREE 1 05 205 SEDGEFIELD 1 06 206 LUDLOW 1 07 207 LINGFIELD 1 08 208

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

BBC1

BBC1

Aintree Going: good

Going: good
2.00 (2m i 10) d holle) 1. TRAGIC HERO (J. Lower, 20-1) 2. Charming Glid (J. Osborne 14-1), 3. Castle Sweep (P. Niven, 7-2) ALSO (RAN) 3-1 fav Kursansky (Rth), 15-2 Mastler Thibe, Sharihara (Sth), 8. Speedwell Prince, 10 Mastler Beveled (Rth), 14 Lake Kariba, 16 Hamilton Silk, 33 Judickous Norman, Martie De Musique, 50 Brazil Or Bust, 66 Frozen See, 100 Red Light (pu), 15 ran, 41, 13-4, 13-4, 13-4, 13-4, 13-4, 24-1 Mpe at Wellington Tote, (27-20, 25-40, 23-20, £1-60, UE, £1-67-90 Tho: \$2385-00 CSF £251-39
2.35 (3m 11 ch), 1, SCOTTON BANKS (L.

CSF 2251 39
2.35 (3m 11 chi 1 . SCOTTON BANKS (L. Wyer, 9-2); 2 Barton Bank (A P McCoy. 9-2); 3 (Inguided Missile (R Durwoody 1-2) ALSO RAN 9-4 tay Couldnt Be Better (pu), 15-2 Egypt Mill Prince (4th), 12 Black Putmour (I) 6 ran 151, 71 221 T Easterby at Matton, Tote (5 10, £3 20, £2 10, DF £14.20 CSF £21.85

\$14.20 CSF \$21.85
3.10 (2m chi 1, ASK TOM (P Niven, 10-1).
2. Lord Dorcel (AP McCoy, 7-1); 3, Cable Beach (R Dunecod), 11-2), ALSO RAN 3-1 fav Manhattan Castle (4lh), 13-2 Senor E Betrifft (pu), 7 Cumbrian Challenge (pu), 8 Gamboling Doc (5th), 14 Subfirme Fellow (f), 20 Nemuro (f), 25 Pimberley Place (f), 10 ran NR Captan Khedher 15, 25-1, 5, 27, 7 Tate at Tadcaster Tole. \$1, 00, 02.50 to 200, 52.20. DF: \$23.10 Ino \$109.80 CSF \$6991.

The E109 80 CSF 569 91
345 (2m 6 ch; 1 JOE WHITE (P Catterry, 33-1), 2 Go Universal (G Braciley, 9-1); 3, Mugorn Beach (J Lower, 33-1), 4, Stranght Talk (A P McCoy, 16-1)
ALSO RAN- 7-1 fev Tourcen Prince, 8 Old Sindge (I), 9 Tudor Fable (II 10 Back Bar fifees (II), 11 Master Boston, 12 Pims Gunner (bd), 14 James Pigg (6in), 16 Romeny lung, 20 All The Acces (I), 8as de Laire, Sallor Jim, 25 Deep Decasion, 33 Gnus A Buck (5th), 40 Bold Chace. Cropredy Lad (I), 200 Channel Pastime. 21 ran Hd, nk, 61, 51, -1 J Johnson at Crock Tole, 952 40, 57 70, 21 90, 93 70 53 10 DF (201,30) The 93,398 20 CSF 1284 & Tringast (B 74,390)
420 (2m 110) d holle 1, ZABADI (A P

(pu) 11 ran, NR Escartefigue, 6f, 1f, nk, 3d, 15f, D Nicholson at Temple Guting. Total E1140 E270, £170, £400 DF, £2830 Tho £172.00 CSF £54.83 c2e 30 Tno £172 00 CSF 554 83
4 50 (3m f1 ch) 1. WUDIMP (Mr C Storey, 15-8 law) 2. Colonial Kelly (Mr P Hacking, 7-2), 3. Bally Root (Mr P Fenton, 9-1), ALSO RAN 9 Johnny The Fox (4th), Space Cappa (ur), 10 A Windy Citizen In. Squirrelisidaughter (nu), 16 Ardibrennan (h. 20 Erins Bor (pu), 9 ran 4, 11, 391, Mrs J Storey at Kalso Tore 12 60 £1 60 £2 00, £2 30. DF 53 90 Tno £18.40, CSF 28 61 St. 20. DF: £3.90 Trio £18.40, CSF: £8.61
5.20 (3m 110)rd hdle) 1. TOP SPIN IA P
MCCoy 20: 1) 2. Jathibi (R Dunwoody, 7-1
1-lav). 3. Uncle Keeny IA Ricche, 14-11, A.
Amble Speedy IF Woods, 14-1). ALSO
RAN 7-1 k-lav Treasure Agein, 8 Forest
Feather, Noyan, 9 Whal A Question (6th).
10 Mizyan, Native Field, Zamiraneer (5th).
16 Allegation (pu) Smith Too. 20 Feets
Like Gold Tinche Lad, 25 Kadastrof, 33
Balanes, 40 See Enough, Zamirah 19 ran
NI 29: 31, 191, 31, Janinara & Royston
Tote £25.80 £4.90, £1.90, £3.20, £2.60.
DF £59.30 Trio £1.90, £3.20, £2.60.
DF £59.30 Trio £7.893.20. CSF£153.09 Tincast: £1.902.44

Jackpot: not won (pool of £18,676.49 carried forward to Aintree today). Placepot: 2762.00. Quadpot: £111.80. Leicester

Going: soit, with heavy patches 225 (5) 2vd) 1 lechyd-Da (M Feston, 5-1), 2 lifsh Fiction (6-4 lav); 3 Swmo (12-1) 7 ran, at, sh hat, M Bell, Toter 55 80, 23,60, £1.20 DF: £17.20 CSF £13.24 2.55 (1m 8yd) 1 Anastina (J Weaver 9-4). 2. his Academic (100-30). 3. Bellard Lady (20-1). Queen Of All Birds 15-6 (av. 7 ran. 7). 3-1, N. Graham. Tote. \$2.60; £1.70. £1.60. DF. £5.30, CSF. £10.39 3.30 (5) 218yd) 1. The Frisky Farmer (A Clark, 2-1 f-tax) 2, Dungeon Princess (2-1 f-tex) 3, Quantiessa (11-2) Sharp Monty 2-1 f-tax 4 ran 1-d, 3) W G M Turner Tole 22 10 DF, £1.90 CSF £6.35

4.05 Et 218/yd 1. Weetman's Weigh (1. Detton 5-2 lav): 2 Golden Pond (7-2) 3. White Panis (3-1): 5 can (N. 6) R. Hollanshead Tote 52.70 Et 70, Et 20, DE 53.90 CSF Et 0.78

5.10 (1m 11 218)(d) 1. Marden Castle (L. Deton 8-11 kav, Newmarket Correspondent's napp. 2. Orchestes Stall (4-1); 3. Harbasch (10-1) 9. rath. 10l. 12l. J. Gostlen, Tote, C1 70, E1 10, E1 60, E5.00. DF 62.10, Tric 16.50 CSF: 63.30. 5-40 (71 9yd) 1. Schamhorst (A Daly, 20-1), 2. Duello (12-1); 3. Sycamore Lodge (6-4 law) 12 ran, let, 154. S Dow. Toter 233.30, 98.10, £1 60, £1 f0, DF: 590.40 Timo £77.00 CSF £219.56 Tricast £541.35 Placepot £14.20.

Going: sok, good to acit in places 2.15 (2m 11 hdie) 1. Char-Yo (G Upton, 2-5 ias); 2. Laura Lye (12-1), 3, Bowles Pairol (17-2) 8 ran 3l. 20l. J Old. Tote. £1.30; £1.20, £2.60, £1.30 (3F-£4.50 CSF-£5.35 245 (2m 110)q ch) 1, Juzz (7 Descombe, 5-2 lav), 2, Aaf El Aal (3-11, 3, Rose Genter) (20-1), 9 nm, 25', 9, R Hodges, Toler 22-90; 61: 10, 61 50; 623-90. DF, £4:50 Trio. 53:80 CSF 59:88.

Taunton

3.20 (3m ch) 1, Court Melody (P Hide, 6-4 tax): 2. Certain Angle (4-1): 3, Benntonin Bit (11-1), 6 ran 9, 3; P Nicholis Tote. 240; £150, £2.00 DF. £11.00 CSF 3.85 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, its Grand (5 Fee, 7-2 las); 2, Posrig 3 Lass (10-1), 3, Daves Delight (9-1); 4, Free Dancer (20-1), 18 ran Na. 14. 3 Bradley, Toter 62.70, 61.10, 61.50, 62.10, 65.70, DF-617.10, This C129.60, CSF- £38.96 Tricast £381.01 Bought in 5.200gre.

Bought in 5.200gms.
4.30 (3m chij 1. On Alest (Air Richard White, 9-1); 2, Golden Freeze (20-1); 3, Expressment (11-1), Loyal Note 7-4 law, 13 ran NR- Saussato Boy 1-4, 11, 41 V Greenway 100F 018 90, 63 60, 67 60, 15 30 DF 0141 30 Thor 0159 40 gpart won pool of 2112 39 carned toward to 3 40 at Autores loday). CSF- £161.46 5.00 (2m 11 hdie) 1, Persistent Guttner (1 Dascombe, 13-2), 2, Jennier Puddieduck (5-2), 3, Our Ranking (94 lan) 7 ran, 3, 5 R Hodges, Tate 26 70 £2.20, 52.00, DF: £9 60 CSF £21 94 5.30 (20m 12 risk)
5.30 (20m 11 risk)
Burrough 9-4), 2. Barnsters Boy (4-5 lay);
3. The Chress Barot (9-1), 8 ran 3/51, 211
D. Chesnoy, Total 24 90 (21.80, 61.10,

Placepot: \$275.90. Quadpot: \$118.40.

LINGFIELD PARK. THUNDERER

2.20 Sweet Supposin. 2.55 No Submission, 3.30 Lord Sky. 4.05 Hatta Sunshine. 4.40 Soviet Shore, 5.10 Arlington Lady. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.20 SWEET SUPPOSIN (nap). 4.40 Soviet Shore.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2,20 cold as charity claming stakes (£2,690: 1m 4f) (5 runners)

2.55 APPLE A DAY SELLING STAKES (£2,364: 1m 2f) (12)

(2.2,354: 1(1) 27) (1/2)

1 - 503 AMESONE POWER) 36 (CD,S) J Hit; 10-9-4 ... A Clark 9

2 7128 MS SLEWSSON 9 (VCD,D,S,S) D Chapman 10-9-4 A Carbon 9

3 3042 TOTAL RICH 36 (B,CD,BF,F,S) R Import 48-13. W Woods 7

4 3-63 JEP 31 C Marker 58-12. M Tribut 8

5 - 500 MORTHARDS WAY 51 (CD,G) A Marcer 5-1-2 Camby Morns 12

6 8125 MORTHARDS WAY 51 (CD,G) A Marcer 5-1-2 Camby Morns 12

6 8125 MORTHARDS THAIL 12 (M,G) K Burb 48-12 ... J Garlen 5

8 - 500 RICK EDDE 370 (M,DD,S) & Garlen 7-8-12 ... J Garlen 5

9 - 500 RICK MLIE PRIE 7 (S) S Due 48-12 ... J Garlen 3

9 - 500 THE CAPE DOCTOR 28 A Finder 48-12 ... J Whelen (3) 1

10 3529 MANSAN 15 B Hood 44-7 ... J Fordan 4

11 00-0 TAMOROGE 15 J Jenius 48-7 ... J Fordan 2

12 8054 THOMPROMAN 6 (B) J Rebigs 5-1 7 ... A Duly (3) 1

24 Universal 2-2 Markers Total 4-1 Third Rich 5-1 Our Edde; 8-1 Jeth. 3-1 No Salamesson, 7-2 Modium Trial, 4-1 Total Ruck, 5-1 Our Editie, 6-1 Jebi, American Prospe, 70-1 offices

3.30 SPRIAL BUILDINGS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP (£5,341: 5f) (6)

3-2 Stand Tall, 3-2 Spenter, Berge, 4-1 Land Sty, 7-1 Team, 6-1 Value

4.05 LIGHTWEIGHT PLASTERING HAMPICAP (£2,881: 1m) (12)

2.881: 1m) (12)

1 6-21 VIGTURY TEAM 2 65 6 Baiding 4-10-5 (See) A Clark 11
2 6940 LABLOD 2 (CD.6) & Register 6-9-4
3 TACE HATTO 2 (CD.6) & Register 6-9-3
4 5415 SARIM 2 (CD.F.G) C Wideous 19-9-3. C Poster 9
5 2015 LEAC RAW 14 (CD.6) J Armold 4-8-10 J Clark 6
5 2015 MONTONE 15 (8.F.S.S.) Jacobin 6-8-10 J Typicare 1 5 2415 SAFEM 2 (CD.F.G.) C Wildows 18-9-3. C Poster 9
5 2415 LEAC RAW 14 (CD.G.) J Amold 48-18 J Outs 9
6 5485 MONTONE 15 (B.F.S.S.) J Seedes 6-8-10 J Fortuna 2
8 5485 MONTONE 15 (B.F.S.S.) J Seedes 6-8-10 J Fortuna 2
8 544 EASTLEBEN 15 (B.F.D.Q.S.) H Hothertone 7-8-10 L Detail 7
9 434 TOP FET 14 (F) R Amburd 6-3-9. T Outro 3
10 401 CALL TOPHORSE 34 (B.C.) C Manay 4-0-9. M Technol 4
11 3300 ZAMRAN 15 (CD.F.G.) J Bestley 5-8-4 S Drooms (3) 6
12 06-0 MOVPRG LP 87 6 L Moore 3-8-1 M Adams 1 4-1 Streen, 5-1 Hater Surphine, 11-2 Victory Team, 7-1 Labold, Lillie Scarlett, 8-1 Call Tephrase, 18-1 Manuer, 12-1 others.

4.40 SPINAL BLIURIES ASSOCIATION MAIDEN STAKES (£3,794: 1m 2f) (10)

2-1 Source Share, 5-2 State Cercis. 3-1 Carol's Desart, 6-1 Desartmation. 10-1 Leaf Elemporer, 12-1 Publishmit, 16-1 Webly's Cossin.

5.10 BALD COOT HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,529: 7f) (6)

5-2 Branes, 3-1 Derror, 7-2 Mytters Mittele, 4-1 Mol Carent, 5-1 Iray's Salt Hea, 35-1 African Leik.

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSPS: D Loder, 13 where; hom 30 numers, 43,3%, C Thomton, 3 hom 7, 42,9%, P Herris, 10 hom 36, 27 8%, D Nucholis, 8 from 34, 23,5%, Lord Hustingdon, 40 hom 172, 22,5%, D Murtay Smith, 12 from 65, 18,5%.

HONELYS: I. Delichi, 69 swamers, hom 250 roles, 26,675, J. Weatver, 65 hom 292, 22,3%, Estima O'Gomtan, 34 hom 167, 20,4%; Y Quinn, 38 hom 26, 17,6%, D McKessan, 20 hom 116, 17,2%; A Culbane, 3 hom 18, 16,7%

Sound Man can make big noise on faster ground

ALL THE RACES

AT AINTREE

O'Donnell were seventh and

eighth. Southern Minstrel is

another formerly useful per-

former who is doing well at

this level and The Country

Trader, second to Go Uni-

versal (received 10lb) in Au-

4.20: Father Sky is expected

to run a big race at a decent price now that he is back on

nis favoured good ground.

However, this is an above-

average renewal of a race for

staying novices and three

have sound form chances.

Pharanear ran a cracker behind Great Easeby in the

Gold Card final at Chelten-

ham and is several pounds

clear of his rivals according to the official handicapper

Superior Risk possesses

bags of pace and has taken

well to hurdling, winning

decisively from Yahmi at Taunton last time. However,

all his races have been on

softer ground and I prefer

Turnpole. He appears to

have been laid out for the

race by Mary Reveley, who

took this last year with

Morgans Harbour, Winner

of his three starts this term.

he was impressive when

stepped up to 2's miles at

Newcastle last time when

beating Sparky Gayle. To-

day's trip can bring about

4.50: Top Cees travelled well

for a long way in the Gold Card final and may appreci-

ate this shorter trip. Golden

Hello is on a winning mark

and, after an operation to

improve his breathing, is

expected to run a big race on

favourable ground. How-ever, Tony McCoy is an eye-

catching booking for

Huncheon Chance and the

Co Antrim raider looks well

treated. A faller last time, he

previously won at Fairyhouse with McCoy riding

and finished a good third to

5.20: A tricky finale as the

three best handicapped hors-

New Co at Gowran Park.

further improvement.

gust, is interesting.

2.00: Simply Dashing, a course and distance winner, missed Cheltenham and has sound claims of extending his winning run. His defeat of Jack Tanner last time at Warwick was enhanced when the runner-up finished a good fourth behind Urubande in the Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle and the selection meets David Nicholson's runner on 51b better terms. A combination of weight and longer trip may prove too much for Indefence, the Supreme

2.35: This quartet met in the Queen Mother Champion Chase, where Klairon Davis triumphed, and reoppose on identical terms over an extra half-mile. The ground this afternoon will almost certainly be faster than at Cheltenham and with Sound Man best on a faster surface and proven over the trip he can reverse the form. Klairon Davis appeared to stav 2½ miles over hundles on his final start last term but his best form is with give in the ground. Similar comments apply to Viking Flagship, the winner of this race

Novices' winner.

(4.20 Aintree)

passed Cheltenham and is proven on ground ranging from good to soft to good to Undefeated over fences, the form of his three wins this term read better than anything on offer here and Richard Dunwoody's mount should take all the beating. Addington Boy won in the style of an improving novice at Doncaster last time but has more on his plate, and Act The Wag looks a greater threat.

Cheltenham, where Clare Man and The Bird

RICHARD EVANS

AUNITREE COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: K Balley, 7 winners from 24 numers, 29.2%; Mrs M Reveley, 4 from 16, 25.0%; N Invision-Davies, 8 from 40, 20.0%. J Ptogrand, 3 from 16, 16 Bh; D Nicholson, 9 from 50, 18.0%; G Richards, 5 from 40, 12.5%. JOCKEYS: G Bradley, 6 winners from 24 frides, 25.0%; C Maude, 3 from 14, 21.4%; P Nean, 4 from 22, 18.2%; R Durwoody, 10 from 61, 16.4%; D Bradjewaer, 3 from 20, 15.0%.

☐ Guy Upton was yesterday

confirmed as Jim Old's stable jockey, and the pair join forces with 100-1 chance Plastic Spaceage in tomorrow's Martell Grand National.



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Ailing form adds insult to injury for **Ballesteros**

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN PONTE VEDRA BEACH

THE soft spring sunshine that blessed this part of Florida yesterday morning shone benevolently on Kenny Perry and Justin Leonard, who had rounds of 65, seven under par, and on Craig Parry, who had a 66, but, for all the good that it did Severiano Ballesteros, it might as well have been cold, dark and wet Ballesteros, his face lined with sadness, quit after completing ten holes of The Players' Championship,

complaining of a sore back. Ballesteros had arrived in Jacksonville at the weekend intent on practising and trying to regain some semblance of form after being 13 over par in Morocco and finishing joint last in Dubai - his first two tournaments after a five-month lay-off. He practised hard each day, as many as four hours at a time, and felt fine on the practice ground before his early-morning tee-

The pain started after his

Richard Boxall and Derrick Cooper, the winners in 1992 and again last year, failed in their attempt to become the first pair to win the Sunningdale Foursomes three times when they were beaten in the last 16 yesterday. The experienced European Tour players were beaten 5 and 4 by Luke Donald, 18, an England boys international, who plays at Beaconsfield, and Michael O'Connor, 19, a member of the Stoke Poges club. They went on to reach the semi-finals.

drive on the 6th and it was in his lower back. It might have had a little to do with his scoring; he was about to go three over par. Soon, Jesper Parnevik, a playing partner, noticed Ballesteros was in difficulty. "He was not getting through the ball," Parnevik said. "He had no distance. It was not Seve.'

On the 11th, Ballesteros withdrew, by now six over par. "I could not swing the club far enough back and I couldn't swing it forward," he saig. "I ten so ngal i w bumping it forward. What was the use of that?" In the locker-room, Ballesteros had ice applied to his back and massage. He intends to compete in Atlanta next week and in the Masters the week after. but will wait to see how his

back responds to treatment. "That's a shame," Colin Montgomerie said after handing in his card of 71, one under par, and hearing about Ballesteros. It was pointed out that Ballesteros, like Montgomerie, had lost weight and perhaps that had something to do with it. "But weight is not his problem." Montgomerie said, laughing. "It is mine."

Seeing the new slimline Montgomerie at a distance prompted some spectators to take a second look. They thought that the figure taking the long strides looked familiar, but were not too sure untilthey looked again and realised that this was Europe's leading money-winner these past three years; he is now nearly three stone lighter than he was

"I did a double take when I saw him," David Hill, the championship secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, said as he and two of his four watched Mont-

Montgomerie had few problems in a round marked by a precous demonstration of the difficult art of hitting a driver from the fairway. On the loth, Montgomerie faced a shot with a carry of 230 yards to a narrow green bounded by water. Though it was into the wind, he had no qualms about calling for his driver and the ensuing birdie was his third of

It also gave him the dubious privilege of the honour on the next tee, the menacing 17th, where the green is almost completely surrounded by water. "You don't want to be first up on that hole," Montgomerie said, "specially when it's windy. You want to see what the others play before you make your choice." Montgomerie's nine-iron carried the 144 yards to dry land safely and an eight-foot putt saved par on the 18th.

It was not a good day for the Spaniards. Word had been expected from José Maria Olazábal's office in Spain as to whether he would compete in Atlanta and the Masters. The decision has been delayed a day and the likelihood is that he is not well enough to do so.

Woosnam, normally such a powerful driver, was ballooning his tee-shots and becoming so discontent with himself that, on the 11th, Billy Andrade, a playing partner, watched and burst out laughing. "Woosie," he said, "I'm not laughing at you, I'm

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Why buy his lary to the Sir Ron Dearing, the missing years. In

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Sir Ron Dearing's Report on the "jungle of qualifications" -;

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Montgomeric blasts out of the sand at the 3rd during his opening round yesterday. Photograph: J. D. Cubon/Alisport

Lyons corners share of limelight

FROM MEL WEBB IN MADEIRA

SATURDAY night is a big night for the nearly men of European golf. No partying, no discos; just an anxious wait by the telephone in the hope of getting a start in a fully-fledged PGA European Tour event. Paul Lyons is one such: he got the call last Saturday and, five days later, he found himself sharing the lead in the Madeira Island Open.

Lyons, 29, who is attached to Langley Park and lives in Bromley. Kent, spends his sporting life lurking in the murky depths of Category 14, a sort of golfing limbo that is occupied by the hopefuls who finished between 42nd and 86th places in the qualifying school last year.

He cannot reasonably expect to get more than four starts on the main tour this season. He used one up in the Catalan Open when gales reduced the tournament to 36 holes. He shot, he admitted, "bundles" and he would have missed the cut handsomely had there been one.

However, a lecture from Denis Pugh, his coach, has put him back on the straight and narrow. "It is nice to be here, not just making up the numbers," he said. On a day in which there were three holes in one — by Per Haugsrud, Klas Eriksson and David Williams - Lyons's 68, four under par, made him the joint first round leader, alongside Ross McFarlane, on the Santo da Serra course.

He came to the tournament having been presented with a new set of Callaway woods and irons, from Big Bertha to sand-wedge, and he and they had struck up an immediate rapport. Starting at the 10th, he had three bogeys, none of which could be blamed on the new sticks. He three-putted the 18th and failed to get up and down on the 4th and 9th.

It was as well that the new weapons were in good working order; Lyons' round was laced with five birdies and an eagle, at the par-five 2nd, drive, a six-iron and a 15-foot

What did he expect for the rest of the tournament? It would be nice, he said, to carry on as he had started, but a top 30 place would be more realistic. It probably all depends on how Bertha behaves herself.

EARLY FIRST-ROUND SCORES (DS and the unless stated; 68: R McFastere, P Lyons, 88: P Godford, J M Cericzeres (Sp.), D Cropra (Swe), S Gziacher, J Hewisworth, 70: I Gamdo (Sp.), Payra, T Gogde (Ger), M Besencerey (Fr), G J Brand, S Watson, 71: R Jeoquelin (Fr), C Sunesce, I Pyrtan, D Carter, A Hutter, R Russell J Cocene, Adopt Picarell, P Tachet, 72: A Schristo (Pol), C Poet, (Den), A Clocom, A Sentones, P Mochell, S Lina (Sp.), P Curry, R Caydon, V Prilipe, 78: F Tannaud (Fr), G Coven, S Dodd, E Graud (Fr), M Phree on, V Prispe, 73: F Tamaset Fr I S Dodd. E Grand (Fr), M Po D J Russell, G Orr, P Hangsrud (N

Davies determined to prove driving force

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES . IN MISSION HILLS

THE 25th Nabisco Dinah Shore, which started here in California yesterday; is the Masters of women's golf. It is one of those championships that players are longing to win and Laura Davies, the world No I, is no exception.

Davies came close last year. Woosnam's 72 when she tied for third, and marred by poor driving. was even closer the year before - she led by a shot with a hole to play and lost by a shot to Donna Andrews. "I'll either be first, or fourth, this year," she said after winning the Standard Register Ping, the event before the Dinah, for the third consecutive time last week.

33, three under par, after chipping in for an eagle three at the 508-yard ninth after clearing the green with two three-woods. She was just a shot behind Amy Alcott, three times a champion here, who played her first nine in 32.

Davies, the long-hitter with the unorthodox approach she would rather visit the casino than the practice confidence that she said that she intended using her driver almost everywhere.

Davies hit two drivers at the 504-yard 2nd, but bagged her terfly with sore feet. At the 3rd, however, she hit the usual

birdle four with an extravagant, deft lob from the edge of the green to three feet. The ball settled like the proverbial but-

she was looking good: out in

two-iron off the tee and a

seven-iron to the green. Playing with Liselotte Neumann, the winner of twotournaments aiready this season, and Juli Inkster, the champion here in 1984 and 1989 and a fellow sports nut, Davies was in for a congenial but slow day. The three were soon waiting on every shot, but Inkster, especially, was

and could have been four

after birdies at the 3rd and 6th, as was Davies, who holed from 12 feet to match Inkster's birdie three at the 6th. However, Davies drove behind a tree at the next and had to take a penalty and dropped a shot. Neumann, who started with a bogey five, was two

under par after six. Instead, she was two under

to supply new drive for Austin Healey

Leicester

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

AUSTIN HEALEY'S transfer from Orrell to Leicester was confirmed yesterday. The league champions have been in pursuit of Healey for much of this season and he is understood to have agreed a three-year contract.

Orrell, who meet Leicester in the Courage Clubs Championship at Central Park, Wigan tomorrow, are resigned to their scrum half's departure. Earlier this season, Peter Williams, the Orrell director of rugby, viewed Healey as the jewel in his playing crown. but Leicester have approved a budget of more than £2 million for next season and Orrell cannot match that. Austin has signed for Leicester to better his chances of playing for England and I have no qualms about his motives at all," Williams said.

Healey has played once for England A this season, against New South Wales, but misses the league match tomorrow because he is with the England squad in Hong Kong for the annual sevens tournament - as is Neil Back, of Leicester. The tournament, now being played over three days rather than two, begins today and England play Singapore before other pool matches with Scotland and Argentina tomorrow.

In the past, the Rugby Football Union had scoffed at participation in Hong Kong: now, the skills required by sevens are perceived as far more relevant to the 15-a-side game, while the tournament offers additional exposure to international competition. Healey was part of an Eng-land VII that lost 26-0 to Australia in the quarter-finals last year, but, with defence of their world title only a year away, England's display will be watched closely.

Wasps, whose captain. Lawrence Dailaglio, turned down a trip to Hong Kong in the interests of his club's league position, hope that the meeting of the Brent Council planning and development committee next Tuesday will allow them to start redeveloping their ground during the summer, at an estimated cost of E3 million.

One significant advantage Wasps have is that they own their ground at Repton IN BRIEF

Agassi to 🤄 take on **Boetsch** in semi-final

ARNAUD BOETSCH. of France, takes on Andre Agassi, the defending champion, in the semi-finals of the Lipton tennis championships in Key Biscayne. Florida, today after beating Jim Courier, the 1991 champion, 7-6, 2-6, 7-5. Courier's defeat by the No 15 seed halted the carly-season momentum that has seen him climb from No 13 to No 8 in the world rankings and the American, seeded No 7, betrayed his disappointment by hitting a ball high into the crowd at the end.

Agassi advanced thanks to a 6-4, 6-1 victory over Michael Joyce, his unseeded compatriot Chanda Rubin, of the United States, beat Gabriela Sabatini, of Argentina, the 1989 champion, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 to go through to the semi-finals.

Swail shines

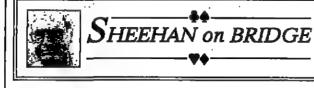
Snooker: Joe Swail continued to take advantage of his wildcard invitation to the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters by reaching the semi-finals with a 6-5 win over Ronnie O'Sullivan at Goffs, Co Kildare, yesterday. Swail, the world No 19

from Belfast, recovered from a 4-2 deficit to defeat John Parrott 6-4 in the previous round on Tuesday, and he again benefited from a strong finish against O'Sullivan, rallying from 5-3 down. Swail will now meet Peter Ebdon. the title-holder, or Darren Morgan tomorrow for a place in the final on Sunday.

Doubling up

Rugby: Frano Botica, 32, rugby league's most prodigious points scorer, and the former All Black, is in discussions with several rugby union clubs, including Moseley, the Courage Clubs Championship second division side, about playing some matches in winter. The former Wigan standoff half is contracted to Castleford for the first two summer Super League

Collard's chance 🔞 Motor racing: Emmanuel Collard, 24, the French driver, has joined Tyrrell to help the team with its testing programme. He will drive in grands prix if either Mika Salo or Ukyo Katayama be-



This refresher is easy when you are given a clue - think about the possibility of overtaking an honour for entry purposes. Dealer North

ed his winners: two in each of

spades, hearts and diamonds, so he needed three club tricks.

was to play the king of clubs

from the dummy at trick two.

If this is ducked, he continues

with another club. Now, he

can win the return, cross to the

ace of diamonds and establish

the club suit. Later, he can get

to dummy with the king of spades to cash all his winners.

Tor details of The Times

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What he should have done

€K54

●K109872

+K732

Contract: SNT by South This is a likely sequence of

South Africa, and, in a tense meeting between two unbeaten teams, Andy Thomson's

Old guard prove too determined

land, New Zealand, Scotland and Wales shared the medals in the pairs and triples, and yesterday saw favoured quar tets from Australia, England, New Zeland and Wales qualify for the semi-finals of the fours. Isolated giant-killing exploits, such as Namibia's win over New Zealand yesterday, and Guernsey's eclipse of South Africa, are the exceptions that prove the rule: the old guard has flourished.

In section A, Australia's 25-12 win over Scotland on Wednesday put them in the driving seat, but Ireland gave the Scots hope by beating Australia 27-17, yesterday, Jersey, however, played too well to allow Scotland to inflate

England's strongest chal-lengers in section C were quartet prevailed.

FROM DAVID RHYS JONES

PLAYERS' shirts carry the Sensational Adelaide exploding bowls logo, and officials talk of setting the game alight. but there have been few pyrotechnics in the world outdoor bowls championships at the Locklevs centre. Last week, Australia, Ire-

their shots credit.

Namibia's 22-13 win over Peter Belliss's New Zealand team gave Hong Kong a great chance of qualifying from section B. but Papua New Guinea dashed their hopes, and New Zealand survived.

Wales came through unbeaten in section D, with a blend of youth and experience, Chris Blake, who is 24, and Jason Davies, 20, teaming up well with the old hands, Will Thomas and Robert Weale.

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

+J2 +01008 **VQ8743** . **VJ6**5 +98 +J1094 **#**A763 ¥K1092

play: declarer wins the ace of hearts in the dummy and plays a club to his queen. He now plays a diamond to dummy's ace and tries the king of clubs. (Better than a low one, by the way - if the . ace of clubs is doubleton. declarer always has to lose two tricks in the suit, but, if the jack is doubleton, playing the king on the second round restricts the defence to one

East wins the second club and plays the jack of hearts, which declarer wins with the king. However, he now has only one further entry to the dummy, so, though he can establish his club suit, he cannot get there to cash it. He can still try for a 3-3 break in diamonds, but that fails.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Declarer should have countsection on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BUMBLE

a. A beadle b. A clown c. A minor official

BUMMAREE a. A Billingsgate porter b. A beachcomber c. An Australian back-packer

KHITMUGAR a. Quartermaster's kit inspection b. Ari RSM

c. A servant SLUBBER a. A sewer cleaner b. A washerwoman c. A yarn-twister

Answers on page 46

White: Grigory Serper By RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Sacrificial wins

The tournaments in Amsterdam and New York, running concurrently, have both been distinguished by a spate of

sacrificial wins. After six rounds in New York, Michael Adams, of Great Britain, leads with five points after some particularly dashing play; in Amsterdam, Kasparov and Topalov share the lead with 312 points from

White: Nick de Firmian Black: Michael Adams New York, March 1996

Ruy Lopez 1 e4 2 Nf3 3 Bb5 4 0-0 6 Re1 7 Bb3 8 c3 9 exd5 10 Nxe5 11 Rxe5 12 d4 13 Re2 14 g3 15 Nd2 19 add5 20 Ra6 21 Ra7 22 Ne3 23 kg3 24 bg3 25 Bbs3 25 Kg2 26 Kf1 27 Ke2 28 Bbs3 30 Ra8+ 31 Re8 32 Ke2 33 Kd3

Black: Viktor Korchnoi New York, March, 1996

Ne3 Ne3 O3 Bg2 0-0 8 d3 9 cad5 10 Nd2 10 Nd2 11 e3 12 Nc4 13 Bd2 14 b4 15 Na5 16 Oc2 17 Rac1 18 Oc4 19 Oc2 20 bog3 21 Oxa4 22 Oc2 23 Nc4 22 Oc2 23 Nc4 25 Rte1

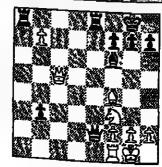
Diagram of final position

White resigns on account of 30, Kg2 Rh2+; 31, Kxh2 Qf2+; 32, Kh3 Rh8+; 33, Kg4 Qf5 checkmate.

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Bardeleben -Alekhine, Germany, 1908. Both sides have dangerous advanced b-pawns. How did Alekhine prove that his was the more dangerous?

Solution on page 46



English Opening Nf6

'vassito.

Irvine crosses curbs in pursuit of grand prix success

ddie Irvine lounges against the only radiaagainst the only tor in the biggest room of his new home, sits on the only cushion - there are no chairs yet - and raises a bottle of beer to his lips. His mobile phone rings constantly. To make sure that things do not get boring, he has got a few friends round for a bit of banter. Fast Eddie never

misses a trick Just down there, he says, past the pink gate, looking out over the Irish Sea, is where The Edge, from U2, lives. He moves to another window and points out the house next door that Van Morrison has bought Later in the afternoon. he saunters down to the Dalkey Island Hotel for a sandwich and a chat with the

When night falls over Dub-lin Bay, Irvine phones a restaurant, dropping his name to ensure that the table is secured. After the meal, it is on to a few bars, a few beers with Lisa Stansfield, another local resident, and then on into town. A few hours at Lillie's Bordello, the city's hippest nightclub, playing the Space Invaders machine and chewing the fat in the VIP room, is round for the cab ride home. Success has not changed

Oliver Holt joins motor racing's most unconventional driver on a challenging circuit of Dublin's night-time attractions

He is still doing it his way, still cocking a snook at convention. eschewing the ascetic, almost monastic, lives that most drivers seem to lead in their pursuit of fitness and success. irvine, an irreverent Ulsterman, is the breath of fresh air that Formula One has needed

for a long time. Three weeks ago, at the Australian Grand Prix, he surprised observers by out-qualifying Michael Schu-macher, the double world champion, his Ferrari teammate. It was only the third time that Schumacher had been out-qualified by a teammate. Just to rub it in, Irvine finished third in the race, his first for the Italian team since his move from Jordan. Schumacher had been forced out with brake problems.

"I want to be measured against the best," Irvine said in the midst of his night out in Dalkey. "Schumacher's seen as being the best and I out-qualified him. I want to continue doing that. It doesn't make me big headed; I just think it's a gas. I find it amusing. There's Schumacher with his take-home pay in the region of £40 million and I boshed him

at the first race. OK, qualifying is really only one lap, but, for me, qualifying is where it's at it is pure, not like the race." Despite his bravura start, Irvine knows that the odds at

the Brazilian Grand Prix in São Paulo on Sunday are still stacked against him, even within Ferrari, Schumacher is the team's designated No l driver and Irvine knows the score, knows that he has to let Schumacher win if the team demands it. "I may be a maverick," he said, "but I'm not stupid."

e knows that Schu-macher is being paid a king's ransom to bring home Ferrari's first drivers' championship since Jody Scheckter won in 1979. Irvine, though, is not short on confidence, and a normal supporting role is not quite what he has in mind.

"I don't feel I play second fiddle to him," he said. "I am given as good a car as Ferrari can give me and it's up to me to beat him and then pull over. If, at the end of the race, I'm ahead of him and there's no car between us and I've got a ten-second advantage over him, I won't have a problem pulling over because, as far as I'm concerned, I best him. It doesn't make any difference how many points I get at the end of the year. I will know

where I stood.

Everybody always says winning the world championship is their ambition, but it's not mine. Mansell won the world championship but I would not want to win it the way he won it, with a vastly superior car. As far as I am concerned, Senna won the world championship that year, and, when Prost won it in 1993, Senna was the real world champion that year, too. OK, the statistics say Prost, but he wasn't the best driver.

ego trip."

In the same vein, he made no attempt to hide his contempt for certain drivers who keep quoting how many races they have won from the starts they have done". That means nothing, too, he said, because the statistics will vary according to the car the driver is in. This year, in particular, Irvine is convinced that the Williams-

Senna was unreal that year.

Winning the world champion-

ship means nothing. It's an

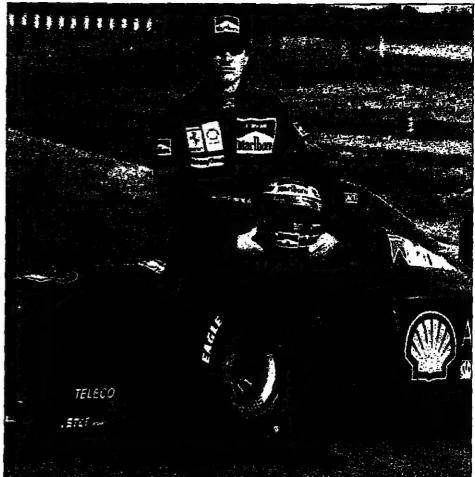
Renaults driven by Damon Hill and Jacques Villeneuve are streets ahead of the rest. People have been saying

that Michael must be worried about me now," Irvine said.
"Actually, I think he's more worried about Jacques. Jacques has got a much better car, he's young, he looks good, he's big in America and poten-nally big in Europe." Nevertheless, Irvine was en-

couraged that Ferrari got as close to Williams as they did in Melbourne. There is no way our car was within half a second of theirs," he said. "That bodes well. That says to me that we don't have to get our car as good as the Wilhams to beat them.

"I have always thought Michael was the business. Where he is so good is that I don't think he aims to get it perfect every lap. He goes just slightly below that, gets every corner just below the level. I don't find driving like that a challenge.

"I aim for 100 per cent every time. OK, sometimes you mess up, sometimes you get 110 per cent, sometimes 90 per cent and that is the problem with always trying to do the ulti-mate. Michael's average, generally, will be higher, but, when I do stick a good lap in, I don't think anyone could go



Irvine is not prepared to play second fiddle to Schumacher, his illustrious team-mate

BASKETBALL

Eddie Irvine; not yet, anyway.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): LA Lakers 108 Menni 95; Philedelphia 103 Toronto 94; Indicana 99 Washington 93; Boston 121 Minresota 118; San Arisonio 90 New York 84; Dalles 117 Houston 114; Ulah 96 Minwukee 82; Seedle 122 Charlotto 95. BUDWESER LEAGUE: Birmingham Bullets 105 LeCester Riders 90; Manchester Glamb 88 Doncaster Patters 87; Leoparde 56 Sheffield Sharie 65.

ADELAIDE: Men's world championehips:
Fours: Soth round: Group A: Ireland by
Australia 27-17; Jarray bt Cook Blands
24-14; Malawai ti Sirgapore 19-14; Scolland
bt Zirnbattwe 24-14. Group B: Caneda
draw with Nortolk Island 19-19: New
Zesland bt Hong Kong 23-16; Namible by
Pepua New Gamea 24-18. Group C: Melayrea bt Botswere 24-18. England bt South
Africa 25-21; Swaziand bt Guernasy 21-14;
Karrya bt Trailand 22-13, Group D: Weste
bt Argentina 19-15; Western Samos bt Fig.
20-19; United States bt Israel 18-16.
Seventh round: Group A: Australia bt
Singapore 29-11; Zimbabwe bt Cook
Islands 36-18; Ireland bt Malawai 48-10;
Scotland bt Jerney 24-20 Final positions:
equal 1; Australia and Scotland 12-bt; 3,
Ireland 11; 4, Zimbabwe 8: 5, Jerney 6: 9,
Malawai 4; 7, Cook Islands 2; 8, Singapore 0.
Group B: Nortolk Island bt Bruz 23-17;
Papua New Gaines bt Hong Kong 21-14;
Nambles bt New Zesland, Nembla
and Hong Kong 6; 4, Canstela 7; 5, Papua
New Garines Cook Islands 2; 7, Final
positions: equal 1, New Zesland, Nembla
and Hong Kong 6; 4, Canstela 7; 5, Papua
New Garines; 6, Nortolk Island 5; 7, Papua
24-14. Final positions: 1, England 14;
equal 2, South Atrica and Guerney bt
South Africa 18-17; Melaysta bt Kernya
24-14. Final positions: 1, England 14;
equal 3, South Atrica and Guerney (1)
goul 4, Malaysia; and Seuziand 8; 6,
Bitswana 4; 7, Kanya 2, 8, Thalayd 0.
Group D: United States bt Argentine 24-16;
Final positions: 1, Wales 12: 2, Iersel 8;
equal 3, Western Samos, Fill and United
States 6; Argentina 4; 7, Zambols 0, Semifinals: Australia v Weles; England v New

CRICKET ADRAS: Ranji Trophy (second day o s) Kamatsika 471-4 (R Vijay 146, R Drawd 4, S Somasunder 99, A Vaidya 42) v Tami

CYCLING

TOUR OF SARDINIA: First stage (167 kilometres, Isaly unless stated): 1, D Zarette 4hr 17min 38acc; 2, A Beffr, 3, E Bardin; 4, 6 Fierdomento all same time; 5, G Citario at 5sec; 6, M Fondriest same time, Leading oversal, positions: 1, Zarette 4hr 17min 35sec; 2, Beffr 2, 3, Berzin 4; 4, Pierdomento 5; 5, Fondriest 8.

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results.

BNTERNATIONAL, MATCHES: England 1
Bulgaria 0: Northern Ireland 0 Norway 2: Ireland 0 Russia 2; Scotland 1 Australia 0; Vugoslavia 1 Romania 0; Portugal 1 Graece 0; Stovalda 4 Belorussia 0; Germany 2: Derimark 0; Potend 0 Stovens 0; Austria 1 Switzerland 0; Belgum 0 France 2; Bradi Olympic XI B Ghang 2: ENOSLEIGH (NSURANCE LEASUE: Fruit division: Portsmouth 1 Port Valle 2: Third division: Herstord 1 Lincoln 0.

VALDHALL CONFERENCE: Galachead 2 Altrincham 3.

FOOTBALL AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Pirst division: West Ham United v Ponsmouth (at Upton Park, 2.0). BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IMPLAND: Premier division (7.45): Droghads v Galway, Shelbourne v Sharmock, St Patrick's Athletic v Liniversity College, Dublin, Athlone v Bohamlans.

RUGBY LEAGUE Stones Super League Paris v Sheffield (7.30)

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Buckweiser League (8.0): Newcastle v Leicester, Leopards v GOLF: Surrangdale Foursomes (Sunn

SPEEDWAY (7.30) Premier League: Belle Vus v Coventry; Oldord v Swindon. Challenge: Paterborough v Long Eaton.

THE TIMES 20162

RACING

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1 Louk 2. Power total repety, subort 1 Louk 2. BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier divisions Newport AFC 2 Weston 3; Baldock 0 Carnbridge City 0. Mitdland division: Scinul 2 Paget 1. Southern division: Poole 0 Yate 3. ICSS LEAGUE: Second division: Coller Row 1 Heymel Hempelined 1. Third division; Harlow 2 Clispion 1; Lewes 3 Availay 2; Westdonor D Carnborley 0. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol Rovers 2 Westdond 2; Charlton 1 Ipswich 3; Oxford Utd 1 Norwich 1; Southerspion 0 Lusion 1; Swindon 1 Milleriol 3; Totterham 3 Brighton 0. Second division: Beth 1 Cardiff 4; Bournemouth 3 Chellenham 1. PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First di-

Chelierham 1.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Nothighem Forest 3 Derby 1;
Olchem 1 Blackburn 1; Transmer 1 Notes
County 0; West Bromstein of Shaffield Wed.
3. Second division: Bensiey 2 Aeton Vile.
1; Burniny 1 Mansfeld 0; Huckdetrelield 1
Blackpool 2; Hull 0 York 1; Preson 0
Sundsriend 0; Rotherham 0 Leicoster 2.
Third division: Bury 0 Derlington 0; Chester
4 Dortossier 2; Rochdale 0 Carlaile 2;
Wilseld 2 Sourthorpe United 0.
FEMSCIN LEAGUE: Presonier divisionor.

Hamilton O; Successy Wandiniers 5 Con-rand 1. FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-final: First leg: Liverpool 4 Crystal Paleon 2.

SUNNINGDALE: Sunningdale foursomes: Third round: R Bossil (Chothem) and D Cooper (Bischwood) bit T Chamley funstry and D Coheriton (Disworth) bit S and 4; L Donald (Besconstitet) and M O'Convor (Stoke Poges) bit C Truster and S Maniell (Mannings Health) 3 and 2; W Baston and G Jenkins (Kenilworth) bit A Raft and A Morgard (St George's Hill) 2 and 1; K Stebies (Montrose) and A Welstern (Edst) bit J Donard (Montrose) and A Pelly Subbiton) at 19th; R Hurst and T Paterson (Leatherhead) bit K Douglas (Long Ashton) and J Soulisty (Prudhoe) at 19th; S Chipman and K Godfrey (St Enoded) bit S Martin and B Porter (Burnham and Berone). Chapterna and K Godiney (St Enaclos) to S Martin and B Porter (Burnham and Barowi 2 Index C Protee (Burnham and Barowi 2 Index C Protees (Burnham and Barowi 2 Cheey (Burnham) and P Cesey (Burnham) to Cheey (Burnham) and S McDonsph (Tracy Party 3 and 2; J Chillian (Gierbervie) and M Gray (Ladybarrid) to L Jones and C Lucurence (The Marsor of Grovest) 2 and 1; W Rilay (PGAET) and G Smith (Camberley Heath) bit P Dryer and S Anchew (Cithretoe) 2 and 1, J Livestey and G Bothwell (Moor Park) to C Poets (Germate Cross) and 8 Smith (East Berlay) 2 and 1; N Mitchell (Perntth Driving Range) and A Pokering (Kricky Lorssale) bit N Mitchell (Perntth Driving Range) and A Pokering (Kricky Lorssale) bit N Mitchell end 5 Mitchell (Domington V) one-hobic; S Whiftin and J Jones (Eriffeld) bit R Walfer (Weenside) and R Goldin (Esling) 1 hole Pough count (Sound Santingolaid) 2 and 1: Donald and O'Connor bit Bosoli and Cooper 5 and 4; Hurst and Patenting Control of C Chellian (Stoke Pouge) at 19th Livesley and Bothwell by Mitchell end Pokering 2 and 1: Bitch Livesley and Godfrey at 22nd; Chillias and Gray bit Protees to Pougea and Caoper 7 and 5: Steward and Forbas bit Hurst and Patentin one hole; Whiltin and Jones bit Chilles and Gray 5 and 5.

**Market Pougeal Connor to Baladon and Jenkins 7 and 5: Steward and Forbas bit Hurst and Patentin one hole; Whiltin and Jones bit Chilles and Gray 5 and 5.

**Market Pougeal Connor to Baladon and Jenkins 7 and 5: Steward and Forbas bit Hurst and Patentin one hole; Whiltin and Jones bit Chilles and Gray 8 and 5.

3

4

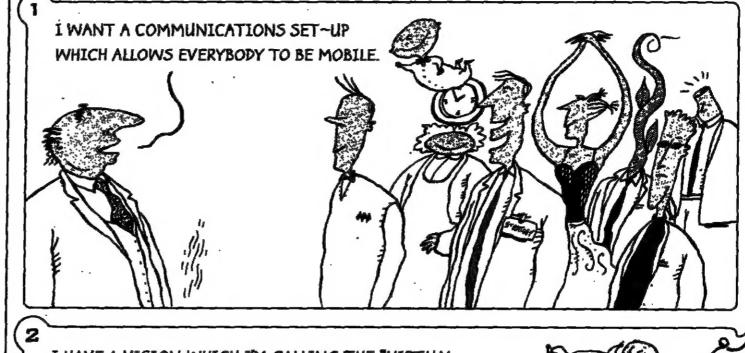
HOCKEY REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Hockey Association XI 5 English Universities XI 2 East Under-21 3 English Universities B 2.

SQUASH

SEA NATIONAL LEAGUE Semi-limite Milautish Blactic Poison Bur bt Phillips Windows Chichester F-0 (Poters Barnernes first J Ransome to N Dugan 4-9, 10-8, 9-4, 9-3; J Denis to P Genever 9-4, 9-6, 9-2; P Carler bit M Greenslade 7-8, 9-4, 9-6, 9-2; P Hogins to M Headthe 9-1, 10-8, 5-9, 2-9, 10-8; S Winght w o L Chepman sort; Keyline Barnham Broom bit Broshoume 5-2 (Bernham Broom bit Broshoume 5-1, 19-5, 2-8, 4-9; M Cowle lost to R Durbach 6-9, 7-8, 9-6, 10-8, 8-10; B Ball to F Gurster 9-2, 8-9, 9-4, 9-3; C Jackman bit J Martin 9-1, 9-7, 9-4, 9-7, C Jackman bit J Martin 9-1, 9-7, 9-4, 9-7, Final to be held at the Pinnacle St Albans on April 20.

RUGBY UNION CLUB MATCH: Moseley 33 PAF 9.

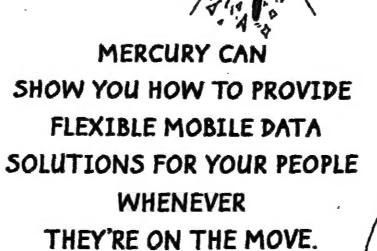
KEY BISCAYNE, Florida: Liptors championships (US unless stated): Marc Singles: Quarter-finals: A Boetsch (Fr) bit J Courier 7-6, 2-6, 7-5, A Agess bit M. Joyce 8-4, 8-1. Doubles: Quarter-finals: M Knowles (Bah) and D Nestor (Can) bit J Engle and A Fiorent (Aus) 6-4, 7-6, S Lares (Can) and A O'Shien (US) bit J Boyrivan and S Edberg (Swe) 8-2, 2-5, 6-4. Women: Stretes: Courter-finals: C Rubbin bit G Sabanti (Apg) 6-3, 5-7, 6-3; K Habsudova (Slovelias) bit I Spirica (Florin) 6-4, 7-5. Doubles: Quarter-finals: R Nucleiter (SA) and K Po (US) bit N Arendt (US) and M Boilegred (Holf) 3-6, 8-2, 6-2; M McGrash (US) and L Nestand (Lat) bit N Tauzet and J Novotra (Ca) and A Sánchez Vicario (SP) bit L McNeil and K Rinaldi Sunkel (US) 7-5, 7-5.



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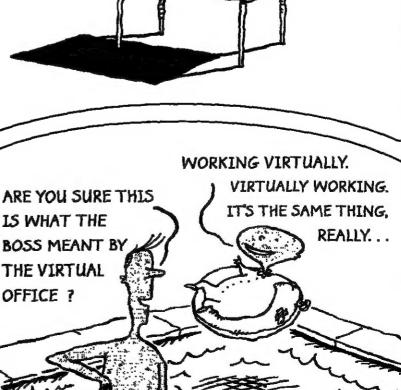


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RADIO CHOICE

The anatomy,

of racism

Christopher Irvine prepares for a new departure in sporting tradition

Rugby league springs into summer era

crystal ball a year ago, and predicted that rugby league would switch to a springsummer season starting in Paris, would have been deemed mad.

Not so very long ago, radicalism was defined as women being granted access to a club committee bar.

Yet tonight — familyfriendly, nostalgia-free - the European Super League will be launched before 15,000 mostly novice watchers at the Charlety Stadium, the home to the new Paris Saint-Germain

That, anyway, is the vision. Sheffield Eagles, the visitors tonight, have partly fulfilled it, although the club's 12-year



harsh realities to be faced. Boasting a home - the Don Valley Stadium - with a grandeur more proximate to Paris thanthe narrow rugby league heartland of northern Britain, their support num-bers only 2,000, despite the team enjoying its most successful season to date.

The money that the sport craved, and received almost overnight, meant that it could afford the vision. The danger is that the communities that have supported it for 101 years can see little more than a blur. After all that time on the backstreets, rugby league is on a six-lane highway not quite knowing whether riches or ruin lie at the end.

One thing is certain — there can be no U-turn. Summer, Super League and television are inextricably linked. The best opportunity to fulfil the game's century-old missionary agenda remains, but continuing financial uncertainty at many clubs, the game's implosion in Australia (where Super League is outlawed pending an appeal) and the consequent doubts about the future at international level



Entat, centre, the Paris Saint-German scrum half, at the heart of the action as the French club prepares for its match against Sheffield tonight

form a ruffled backdrop to the

Paris opening. A pan-European game, trans-global play-offs and city franchises in Great Britain remain as ultimate objectives. However, there are a lot of unresolved issues. Not least is the question of how many people will be tempted by a sport busily reinventing itself for mass consumption in the summer market.

Summer rugby had been a fanciful notion for some years. The £87 million backing for Super League by The News Corporation, parent company of The Times, which materialised last April, was all the incentive necessary, although the subsequent messy issue of club mergers alienated many

A five-month competition. hemmed in by early rounds of the Challenge Cup and domestic play-offs, guarantees Super League clubs only 11 home fixtures. The money is being drip-fed and half is tied to ground improvements. Moreover, the distractions that summer brings have tended to be overlooked. A long and inactive winter will be a bleak one for many of the 35

and could see the reviled merger proposals enter by stealth. Rugby league finds itself up against the European football championship finals and the Olympic Games, in addition to the familiar list of summer sporting counter-attractions. At

Halifax - the Blue Sox -

there is unashamed confirma-

tion that league is the "core

product" and "entertainment-

professional clubs

seekers" are the people whom the club must target in order to survive a difficult first

> The British leisure industry is unlikely to shudder at theme days, fireworks, cheerleaders, singers, barbecues and craft fairs at league grounds, which will wrap around an Academy

'People will pay if they

get value for money fixture and the main match, usually on Sunday evenings. Halifax, London, Bradford, St Helens and Warrington, espe-cially, are rising to the off-field challenge. Those that imagine that supporters will turn up no

matter what are simply invit-

At Bradford, which sees Super League as a panacea for a club that was hidebound by its old ways, there is an air of optimism. Peter Deakin, the Bulls' marketing executive, said: Tradition should not hold back progress. The fans are our biggest sponsors, but they have been short-changed

for years. People will pay if the perception is that they are getting value for money."

Super League brings manifest changes, with the new viewer in mind. Squad numbers, as in the FA Carling Premiership, make a first appearance. For live games on Sky, a television official will adjudicate on line decisions and there will be giant video screens at grounds. Three of nine rule changes will further

speed up a sport already played at breakneck pace. Where rugby league, mercifully, usually gets it right is on the pitch, and there are the teams and individuals to bring credibility, minus the

restructuring. Wigan are best pencilled in as champions. but a definite weakening means that they are not the racing certainties of old. Of the pretenders, St Helens possess the personnel to sneak ahead, with a new-look Bradford possibly spearheading the Yorkshire challenge.

mud, to a year of chaotic

The progress of the new South Wales club in the second division will be monitored closely, especially as a Cardiff team-could be fast-tracked into Super League next year. What a difference a year







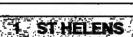












Coach: Shaun McFlas (Aus), appointed Jeruary 1998. Ground: Knowsley Road (cap 19,300). Mickname: Saints Transfers: In: D McVey (Sydney Tigers). Det: Nove.

So egg has dripped down St Helens' laces before, but they, not Wigan, are at Wembley, and there is the talent in twending. Newlove, Joynt and company, under McRae's strict turelage, to convert the belief. Get the defence

Coach: Graeme West (NZ), appointed May 1994. Ground: Central Park (cap 24,000). Nictmame: Riversiders Transfers: In: None Out: None The empire is not falling on the basis of a premature Challenge Cup soft, but the sir of invincibility has been

Word-watching Answers from page 44

(a) and (c). The eponym comes from the officious, overbearing beadle in Dickens's Oliver Twist. But a humble is also an Oxford Vice-Chancellor's mace-bearer, and the "holy poker" or verger in some ancient collegiate foundations. A self-important minor official is the best definition. Bumbledom is fussy officialdom, especially on the part of parish officers.

(a) Middlemen or fishjobbers in Billingsgate Market, now removed from the City to Docklands. Sometimes ignorantly misapplied to Smithfield porters. It has been (implausibly) suggested that the word is a corruption of bonne marée, good fresh fish, marée being a French term for all kinds KHITMUGAR

(c) The Raj's name for a table servant in the days of the Empire. Urdu from the Persian khidmat service + gar agent-suffix. A male servant who waits at table. Also transliterated khidmutgar. "A khitmugar who had drained off a bottle of her eau-de-Cologne."

(c) A yarn-twister, someone who manipulates a slubbing-machine. To slub is to twist yarn after carding in preparation for spinning. A slubweave has small (intentional) lumps in it. There are pubs in Lancashire and other Northern milling counties called the Slubber's Arms.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE 1, ... Qxf1+1; 2, Kxf1 Ra1+; 3, Qc1 b2 and White will emerge much material

Christopher Irvine predicts the finishing order for the first Super League season

- 2 WIGAN 9 BRADFORD BILLS Coach: Brian Smith (Aus), appointed

Ground: Odsal (cap 27,000). Nickname: Bulls

A place at Wembley has come early in Smith's grand design. If it attraulates a strong start in Super League, the Bulls could be a force. Odds: 25-1

4. LEEDS Coach: Dean Bell (NZ), appointed June

Ground: Headingley (cap 26,000). eme: Loiners fens: In: None. Out: C Innes y-Warringah), J Lowes (Bradford), rofield (Huddersfield). Cracks in the Headingley edifice, with a money crisis and on-pitch problems. Unbellevably, they embark on super League without a recognised half-back pairing. Honours unlikely,

5 HALIFAX

Coacht: Sleve Smiths (ALIS), appointed September 1994, Ground: Thrum Hall (cap 7,700) Nicforame: Blue Sox. Transfers: In: G Halkas (Australian RL) Out: G Anderson (Castleford). Strong, but vulnerable in pressure matches. Fine South Seas contingent and have persuaded Rowley, an outstanding hooker, to stay. Unlikely

THE THREE PARTY sch: John Dorahy (Aus), appointed

January 1996
Ground: Wilderspool (cap 12,000)
Michigane: Wolves.
Transfers: Inc. R. Henare (Cariisle), T. Kohe-Love (New Zeeland).

John Doralny and Alax Murphy are the "Unlikely Lads" who should, none-theless, be able to refloat the ship-wracked side of last season. Bags of young talent in Harris and Sculthorpe, with experienced helmsmen to plot a mid-table course.

7 SHEFFIELD EAGLES

Coech: Gary Hetherington (Eng), ap-pointed December 1993. round: Don Valley Stadium (cap

No names, but the team with most Eagles can fly low as well as soar high. Destined for mid-table scrapping.

8 CASTLEFORD

Odds: 80-1.

Ground: Wheldon Road (cap 11,750). Nickname: Tigers. Transfers: In: G Anderson (Halfites), F Bolica (Auckland), R Gey (Hull). Out:

Botics and Gay are valuable additions, but Castleford could have done with more. Little to remove the impression of a side edging beckwards. Will struggle to attain last season's mid-table standing. Classy Cas image too

Coach: Andy Goodway (Eng), appointed May 1994. Grounds: Boundary Park (cap 20,000) and Watersheddings (cap 8,500).

Transfers: In: M Munro (South Sydney), A Palmore (Australian RL). Out. None.

A side that beat Wigan last season was also dreadfully inconsistent. Another roller-coaster ride probable. Oldham are still more cubs than trick of beating Wigan tomorrow, will deserve to be taken more seriously. Odds: 150-1.

10 LONDON BRONCOS

The Valley, Charlton (cap

nacturarne: Broncots. Transfers: In: G. Allen, G. Barwick, J. Brewer, J. Minto, D. Smith, T. Tulleti (all Australia). Out: P. Haulf, C. McKenna, B. Walker (all Australia). Making a success of a new life at

Manng a success or a new me or Charlton is as important as on-field improvement. Enough redoubtable Australians, perticularly with Gevin Allen's signing, to ensure that relegation is less of a problem than getting Londoners to take notice.

11 PARIS ST GERMAIN

Coach: Michel Mazare (Fr), appointed Securities 1995. Securities 1995. Securities Charlety Stadium (cep 22,000). Securities St Germain. Survival is the newcomers' priorit

survival at the newcomer's pricing, The "European" lag to Super League hangs by the stender thread of an untested side in virgin rugby league territory. The basis of the side is the France national teem. This is not sarily a good recommendation. Odde: 150-1.

SOME STATES

Coach: Ross O'Relfly (Aus.), appointed March 1996. Ground: Derwant Park (csp 10,000). Miclansmix Town. Transfers: In: None. Out: V Fawcett

atom of the Stones Championship, with four wins out of 20, and not much for the little-known O'Reilly to work with in order not to scrape the barrel again. Takeover telk has taken up most of the

FIRST DIVISION

Balley, Dewsbury, Featherstone runner, Huddersfield, Hull, Keighley Cougars, Rochdate Homets, Safford Reds, Wake-field Trinty, Whitehaven, Widnes.

SECOND DIVISION

African Harvest. Radio 4, 9.45am.

So strangely does Allan Little begin his series that I feared I had been sent the wrong preview tape by mistake. How does the BBC's man in southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? With a southern Africa open his first talk, which is about racism? the murdering duo came by them. Knox imported a bunch of southern African tribesmen to England and showed them to a gathering of prurient scientists. "Mere animals in propensity, worse gamering of prurient scienosis. "Mere animals in propensity, worse than animals in appearance," sneered *The Times.* Knox's book, *The Races of Man.* traced everything back to race, even murality. He was, says Little, linking Knox with Africa, a pioneering racist. It is a role in which I had never imagined him.

Mining the Archive. Radio 3. 3pm.

There is a rare treat embedded in Fiona Talkington's programme about Vaughan Williams in the 1950s, his final decade. We hear the about vaugnan withams in the 1904s, his final occase, we near the voice of the grand old man himself. He imagines himself into the skin of Bach in the 20th century, delighted to make the acquaintance of the clarinet for the first time and hearing his great works performed not by 16 voices but 300, and not by a ramshackle orchestra but by a large groundle. It was not exactly what labour Schooling might have ensemble. It was not exactly what Johann Sehastian might have expected to hear, says Vaughan Williams, but it was probably what

RADIO 1

FM Stereo 4.00am Cive Warren 6.30 Chris Evars 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa l'Anson, Incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat, and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicly Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodler, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Essential Selection 10.00 John Peel 1.00am

FM Stereo. 6.00em Sarah Karmedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Brian Metthew 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Debbie Thrower 3.30 Ed Siswart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 For Love Not Money 7.30 Friday Night is Musc Night 8.45 Bogarde on Film 9.00 Listen to the Band 10.00 Mavis Nicholson. Radio 2 Aris Programme 12.05em Digby Fairweather 1.00 Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00em Morrang Reports 6.00 The Bresidast Programme incl 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Dians Madili, and Video Review, Euronews and at 11.30 Science News 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck, and at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, incl at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Edira 7.20 Friday Sport, Paris St Germain v Sheffield Eagles 9.35 Stop Press 10.05 Entertainment Superhighway, with Quentin Cooper 11.00 Night Edira, incl at 11.15 The Financial World Toright 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night, with Richard Dallyn

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Wan 7.00 Simon Bates 16.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 Scott Chisholm 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Moz Dec 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00-6.00am Mike

All Irmes in GMT. 5.00am Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Streif 7.30 Mimefelds 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 Music Review 9.00 News 10 German 9.15 Fatth 9.45 Sport 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Off the Shelf 11.00 Newsholesk 11.30 Mend-ian 12.00 News 12.05pm Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Science in Action 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack 3.00 News in German 3.15 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.15 The World Today 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 Business 5.45 Sport 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 News in German 7.00 News Summary 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Multitrack 8.00 Newshour 9.00 World News 9.05 Business 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People and Politics Britain Today 9.30 People and Policis
10.00 Newdesk 10.30 The New Europe
10.45 Sport 11.00 World News 11.10
Spottight 11.15 Minehelds 11.45 The
Farming World Midnight Newsdesk
12.30am From the Weelskis 12.45
Better Today 1.00 World News 1.10 12.30am From the Weeklas 12.45
Britan Today 1.00 World News 1.10
Press Renews 1.15 Seven Days 1.30
Jazz Now and Then 1.45 Good Books
2.00 Newsday 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 World News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Virtage Chart Show 4.00 Newsdask 4.30 Jaz: 4.45 Seven Days

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CLASSIC FM

4.00em Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read Smons 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Cnd: 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Verdict 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00 Robert Booth

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00mm Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00am How-

6.00am On Air. Includes Rossini

6.00am On Air. Includes Rossini
(Overture, Il Signer
Bruschino); Elgar (Symphony
No 2 in E lat); Vivaldi (Violin
Concerto in D minor, Op 6 No
6); Alozart (Piano Concerto
No 9 in E flat, K271)
9.00 Morning Collection with
Paul Gambaccini. Includes
Bach (Brandanburg Concerto
No 6 in B flat)
10.00 Musical Encounters.
includes Artist of the Week: includes Artist of the Wes Kathryn Stott, pieno Ravel (Sonatine); 10.10 Veracini

Britten (A Spring Symphony)
12.00 Composer of the Weak;
Rubbra, with Roderic Dunnett
1.00pm Bristol Lunchtime Hit. Featuring the music of Igor Stravinsky, who died 25

years ago 2.00 Schools, Let's Make a Story 2.15 Music Box 2.30 Dance
Workshop 2.50 Poetry Corner
3.00 The Fitties. Mining the
Archive: Ralph Vaughan
Williams — the Final
Harvest. See Choice
A 20 The Riffer Hits of the

4.20 The Fittles. Hits of the

4.30 Africa Past and Present.
Janet Topp-Fergion, curator
of the International Music
Collection at the National
Sound Archive, introduces an
selection of field recordings of
Althean traditional maries. African traditional music 5.00 The Music Machine 5.15 in Tune with Andrew Green

Rubinstein (Valse Caprice in Efat); Glazunov (Vesna, Op 34); Monteverdi (Lauda

performs Mastnu (Nonet) Messiaen (Le Merie noir); Stravinsky (Septet); 8.10 Focus on the Fittles. Pierre Boulez 8.30

Dellapiccola (Piccola musica notturna); Lutoslawski (Dance Preludes); Hindernith (Octet) 9.30 Young Poets 9.40 Hear and Now. Pater Paul Nash (Apollinaire Choruses); Travor Wishart (Tongues of Engl.) Fire) 12.00-1.00cm Britannia at the

Opera: No Song, No Supper, with lain Paton, tenor, and Elizabeth McCommack, soprano (r)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW only) 6.00
News 6.10 Farming Today
6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30
Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30,
8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55
Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport
7.45 Thought for the Day
8.40 Yaslarday in Parliament
8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Desart Island
Discs: Kyra Vayneir)

9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island
Discs: Kyra Vaynetr)
9.45 African Harvest. See Choice
10.00-10.30 News; Beyond
Resconable Doubt (FM
only) (2/6)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Worsan's Hour
11.30 The Natural History
Programme

Programme 12.00 News; You and Yours

12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm The Food Programme
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (*) 1.55
Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Serial: AR
Things Betray Thee by
Gwyn Thomas (1/3) (*)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleldoscope.
4.45 Short Story: Scary Movies
(*)

5.00 PM 5.55 Weather

6.00 Stx O'Clock News 6.30
Going Places presented by David Stationd, including further tales of Romany
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week
8.05 Any Questions? With MPs
Smonth Hunter Tessa Joseff

Smon Hughes, Tessa Jowel and David Willetts and writer 8.50 Points of Departure, Bridget Kandall describes the horrandous hospital treatment experienced by a frend in Moscow (2/5) (r) 9.15 Letter from America 9.30 Kaleidoscope Feeture M

Strange the Change (r) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Picnic at

Hanging Rock by Joan Lindsay. Read by Lise Herrow 11.00 Week Ending 11.25 Tea Junction with Patrick:

Hannan 11.45 Today in Parliament 12.00 News, incl 12.27am Weather 12.30 The Late Book: Metroland. (10/10) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

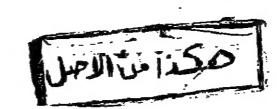
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FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.8-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MY 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO UK. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

Tonight on BBC2, see angels playing the harp.

BBC The Strings Final, 7.30pm. BBC Young Musicians '96 Events. Lloyds Bank





Sting like a bee, float like a hippopotamus

Then Cassius Clay an-nounced in 1966 that his real name was Muhammad Ali, I remember that the main response from the public was impatience mingled with disbelief. This loud-mouth with his "pretty" face, and his unorthodox butterfly boxing, had now come up with a ridiculous, far-fetched grandiosity: if he had called himself King Bog of the Zog People, the huffy resentment would have been about the same. No one ever doubted that Ali took it seriously, however. When his opponent Ernie Terrell refused to acknowledge the new name. Ali took it very badly. "What's my name?" Ali yelled nastily in the ring, as he bullied Terrell about the head, "What's my name?" It was a fight so unpleasant that the young Frank Bough on BBC Sportsnight pronounced it "an affront to human dignity".

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Martin Davidson's Reputations last night (BBC2) was rather odd.

It was a thoughtful film, much less abrasive than the usual Reputations; its concern was, I suppose, to reverse the customary revisionist exercise and find the hero behind the dirt, instead of the dirt behind the hero. Its big mistake was to have Laurence Fishburne narrating, because for a while the combination of hagiography and soft American accent suggested a US documentary bought in for a series it didn't suit. Yet the material was of such high interest that one soon forgot all this: Ali was a brilliant subject for a fresh appraisal, emerging as a figure of great integrity, whose "I am the greatest" was not far from the truth. Ali's biggest bout, of course, was

with the American draft board. When he refused to fight in Vietnam, he was stripped of championship and passport, and his licence to box was revoked. In retrospect, this swingeing punishment now appears so obviously a

political conspiracy to squash an uppity black that it's surprising Oliver Stone hasn't made a film about it. Ali's fame was enormnus. phenomenal, dangerous: "Even people who didn't like him. liked him." Many black Americans disagreed with his draft-dodging; they also disapproved of the Nation of Islam, with its advocacy of separatism. But nobody could deny the good he did for black Americans; and meanwhile we mere telly viewers in Britain will always thank him for that scare he gave Michael Parkinson - almost on a par with Emu.

Big-mouth contests of another sort were to be found in Wildlife on One (BBC), not Scotland), where hippos thighdeep in water raised their enormous heads and did the alarming Guernica thing with their highly articulated jaws. This is the way they show off at each other, you

REVIEW



see, and clearly their mothers never warned them that the wind might change while they were doing it. These hippos lived in a river in Zambia, and apart from not reading paperbacks, they have a life somewhat like human beings on holiday: they laze about in the water, come out to warm up, go back to cool down. Under water, they trot along lightly, the merest push from their dainty feet propelling them nicely through the fish and sparkle. But as this excellent film demonstrated, this beast has a life much harder than it might appear. Every year it wallows happily in lagoons, and then the lagoons dry up. It moves to the river, and the river dries up. Hippos suffer and

die in these lean times; an aerial shot of a thin tributary in a dry brown landscape, with a doomed hippo halfway up it, was very affecting: as was the protective behaviour of bereaved hippos when a dead body floated on the water. An amazing scene, in ghostly night-vision monochrome, showed pale hippos on a riverbank attempting to gang up on a pack of hyenas scavenging on the corpse. Solid but meek, they were driven off by the dogs (which later made short work of a crocodile, too).

Apart from their terrible yawning problem, hippos seemed pleasant animals who don't ask for

You Done with Dr Millmoss?", in which a snappy woman addresses a big solid animal who has clearly just eaten the missing man, but

can't for the life of it remember.

hannel 4's Undercover Britain continues to astound, and not only for the revelations obtainable by secret filming. Last night Gary Thompson set out to expose the practice of ticket touting at football matches. and thus went undercover for several months, infiltrating the tout brigade at Old Trafford, and filming incriminating conversa-tions. How this man lives with his conscience I don't know, but the issue of trust and betrayal was never far from one's mind while watching his film. Thompson made friends with these blokes in

much. As they stood on the bank in the dark, looking lumpen and sheepish, I was reminded of Thurber's famous cartoon "What Have affects the pockets of football fans, but it's hard to see how anyone could get sufficiently impassioned to do such a weaselly thing on purpose. One could only suspect a hidden agenda.

Does Channel 4 offer post-transmission support for these reporters - like the witness protection programs in America for Mafia informers? Probably not. But meanwhile at least sports fans will be pleased that Thompson has exposed the practice, and not a bit surprised that Manchester United FC did not thank him for his sterling work on behalf of justice. When he suggested they pursue his leads inside the club — to find out where the tickets were coming from - they sent a solicitor's letter, and said "No comment". How not to win friends and not influence people, eh?

BBC1: Lary 6.00am Business Breakfast (41879)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceelax) (21320) 9.00 Breaklast News Extra (Ceefax)

9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (2974287) 9.45 Kilroy (s) (8618542)

10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. (3) 12.00 News (Ceelax) and weather (2752707)

12.05pm Movie Magic (r) (5175349) 12.30 Going for a Song with Michael Parkinson, Mariella Frostrup, Tony Slattery and Helen Laderer (s) (26788)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and 1.30 Regional News and weether (59017959) 1.40 Neighbours (Ceelax) (s) (94396165) 2.00 Pebble Mill with Alan Titchmarsh,

Ross King and Sarah Greene (s) (8074813) 2.40 Moon Over Mismi

3.30 The Morph Files (a) (5456900) 3.40 Look Sharp! (s) (5443436) 3.55 Chucklevision (s) (6674542) 4.15 The All New Popeya Show (r) (4184418) 4.35 The Mask (Ceetax) (s) (2468436) 5.00 Newsround (Ceetax) (3217788) 5.10 Blue Pater (Ceetax) (s) (1827436)

5.35 Neighbours (1) (Ceelex) (s) (751875) 6.00 Stx O'Clock News (Caetax) and weather

6.30 Regional News Magazines (639) 7.00 Wipeout. Three contestants compete for the star prize of a holiday (Ceefax) (s) (9725) WALES: 7.00 Don't Look Back

7.30 Tomorrow's World includes the story of a ten-year-old who took one day to crack the ancient Mayan hieroglyphic code that experts had struggled with for years. Now 30 years old, he talks of his 20-year mission to translate further texts. (Ceelex) (s) (523)

8.00 HI-De-HI. The local council plans to build a hospital next to the camp, however, Joe Maplin is not keen on the idea. With Paul

Shane, Ruth Madoc, Jeffrey Holland and Su Pollard (r) (Cestax) (5146) 8.30 A Question of Sport, Bill Beaumont asks. the questions and Ian Botham, Doddie Weir and Lisa Lomas, and Will Carling, Graham Gooch and John Collins, try to

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceetax), regional news andweather (7720)

9.30 999. Michael Buerk presents more tales of heroic rescues (r) (Caetax) (261962) 10.25 FILM: Trading Places (1983) with Dan Aykroyd and Eddie Murphy. A comedy about two millionaires who conduct a social experiment and bet on the result Directed by John Landis (79639).

WALES: Absolutely Fabulous (19553)

10.55 Film: Trading Places (22557455)

12.45am-2.15 Film: The Winchester

Conspiracy (6972498) 12.15am FILM: The Winchester Conspiracy (1990). How and why members of the Australian Federal and New South Wales police forces worked with the Matia in a secret operation to grow and distribute manjuana. With Gerald Kennedy and Terry Gill. Directed by Ken Cameron (s) (380059) 1.45 Weather (8619914)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes VideoPhia+ and the Video PhisCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme likeling are Video PlusCode* numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPhia+** handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record, Videophia+ (**), Phiscode (**) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gernstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Biological Barriers (9233368) 6.25 Vertice and Antwerp — the Cities Compared (9212875) 6.50 Art in the 15th Century(6420233)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (Ceelan) 7.30 Star Trek, Animated version (r) (42813)

8.00 Mil Never Work Design Awards (r) (Caeles) (5045368)

8.25 The Little Polar Bear (r) (1363417) 8.30 Teddy Trucks (r) (9440504) 8.40 The Record (s) (6653639)

9.05 Daytime on Two: Job Bank (1494287) 5 Daytime on Two: Job Bank (1494287)
9.15 Teaching Today (825788) 9.45
Watch (9711233) 10.00 Playdeys (15271)
10.30 Cats' Eyes (3958436) 10.45
Numbers Plus (3946891) 11.00 Look and
Read (6724829) 11.20 Short Circuit
(6437233) 11.40 Bellief File (4025881)
12.00 English File (92287) 12.30pm
Working Lunch (20558) 1.00 Scene
(39349) 1.30 Showcase (16661833) 1.45
Words and Pictures (11611338) 2.00 The
Little Polar Bear (44874320) 2.05 Teddy Little Polar Bear (44874320) 2.05 Teddy Trucks (44673691) 2.10 Open View

2.15 Racing from Aintree. The 2.35, 3.10, 3.45 and 4.20 (73364097) 4.45 Today's the Day (s) (647097)

5.15 Esther. A re-cap on some of the stories featured on past shows (s) (637610) 5.45 Carrier's Carlibbean. The writer and restaurateur Robert Carrier visits Granada (556417)

6.00 The Munsters (Ceefsx) (753894) 6.25 The Champions (Ceefex) (129639) 7.15 Electric Circus (s) (321639) 7.30 Young Musicians 96. National String

Final (s) (65894) 8.30 Gardeners' World, Geoff Hamilton begins to plant his vegetables (Ceetax (s) (5523) N.L.: 8.30 Hearts and Minds

9.00 The Fest Show. Last in series (Ceelax) (s) (8962) 9.30 Doing Rude Things. A light-hearted look

at British sex films (r) (278252) report on the series, which resumes at 11.15pm (s) (886558)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceelax) (825504)



Funs Baddiel and Skinner (11.15pm)

11.15 Fantasy Football League presented by David Baddiel and Frank Skinner (s) (891707) WALES: 11.15 Wales 2006 the Agenda (799875) 11.55 Fantasy Footbell League (588243) 12.15am Acting with Prunella Scales (9226295) 1.05 Weather (8264276) 1.10-2.00 This Life (5605498)

11.50 This Life: Happy Families (r) (Ceelax) 12.35am Bookmark: Skinhead Farewell Author Richard Allen (r) (Ceelax) (s) CHOICE

Fruity Stories

Channel 4, 8,00pm Scotland, this friendly series informs us, grows more raspherries than anywhere else in the world. Within 40 miles of Dundee alone there are 140 growers. Although the cool, moist climate is ideal for the fruit, this is cool, moist climate is ideal for the fruit, this is not, surprisingly, the explanation. All is revealed here. A programme about soft fruits also visits strawberry fields in Kent and follows a contest to grow the heaviest gooseberry. There is practical advice as well. The key to good fruit, it seems, is hard pruning. In this respect the programme is badly scheduled, because the cutting back should already have been done. Fruity Stories continues to hop from topic to topic. Stories combines to hop from topic to topic, without leaving itself time to cover any of them in depth, but the enthusiasm is authentic and if the content fails to grip, there is a always David Lloyd's wonderfully rich Lancashire accent.

The Fast Show BBC2, 9.00pm

Paul Whitehouse, Charlie Higson and friends sign off after another series which has amply justified the claims of the title. Fast is the word, with the sketches following each other in such quick succession that there is hardly time for the punchline.
Sometimes, indeed, you are left waiting for the joke. To their credit, the writers rely little on the standard comic props of parody and topical satire. Most of the material is freshly minted and gains its effect on the reappearance, each week, of the same group of stock characters. The thieving Cockney, the mad professor, the elderly drunk and the rest are recognisable types pushed to deliberately silly extremes. The exception is the teenage mum from Lancashire played by Caroline Hook of Mrs Merton, an authentic portrayal which keeps caricature at bay.

The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: A Case of ITV, 9.00pm

Eddie, the mentally retarded fisherman, Cambridgeshire fens. The cops seem to have got their man. But Eddie is adamant that he did not bump off the flighty surgeon's wife who had booked in alone at a local hotel. String him up anyway, says Ronald Pickup's chief inspector, a reminder that this is 1954 and murderers still face the death penalty. Luckily for the cause of justice, inspector Masters (Keith Barron) is doggedly pursuing his own hunches. Often, in Ruth Rendel stories, we know more than the police. The question is not who did it but will he fit is usually a he) get away with it. This time we are left in the dark but be assured that what seems like a slow burner suddenly catches fire in the final 20 minutes

Father Ted: The Old Grey Whistle Theft Channel 4, 9,30pm

There is not much in the way of plot and the jokes are a shade obvious but the saga of the three Irish priests continues to delight. It is partly the comedy of anticipation, of seeing the point before the characters do. When Dermot Morgan's Father Ted rattles on about having egg sandwiches, and Mrs Doyle, the landlady, arrives with the food for the priests' picnic, you just know what the sandwiches are going to contain. It is still funny. So is the bored and underemployed policeman hoping for a crazed murderer on the loose. A stolen whistle and a dog-collared suspect provide the main narrative thread but it is only an excuse for more quirky humour. Young Father Dougal's dream of being on Countdo nothing to do with anything. But in this show it does not need to. Peter Waymark

6.00am GMTV (2552748) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (2886078)

9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (4130504)



John Stepleton in the chair (10,00am)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place, John Stapleton hosts the topical, travelling discussion show (s) (8342417)

10,35 This Morning. Magazine (98394891) 12.20 Regional News (Teletext) (2741691) 12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (7608558) 12.55 Murder, She Wrote (s) (2686320) 2.00 Home and Away (Teleted) (s) (30477233) 2.25 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (30496368) 2.50 The Good Health Guide (Teletext) (4082165)

3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (1396423) 3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (2746964)

3.30 Rosie and Jim (r) (s) (5432320) 3.45 Zzzap! (r) (5437675) 4.00 Talespin (r) (s) (4633981) 4.25 The Geeks (Teletext) 4643368) 4.55 Hang On (1915165) 5.10 A Country Practice (s) (9354639) 5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (200726)

6.00 Home and Away(r) (Teletext) (s) (740320)6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (843981) 6.45 Sportsweek (Teletext) (716523)

Right (Teletext) (s) (4894) 7.30 Coronation Street, Maureen makes a momentous decision. (Teletext) (691) 8.00 The BIII. PC Quinnan is on the receiving end of a rebuke when he fails to notice an injured woman on the station doorstep

8.30 The Upper Hand. Charle's romantic intentions towards Caroline interfere with the smooth running of the household (r)

(Teletext) (s) (9349) 9.00 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: A Case of Colnetdence. Concluding the two-part murder mystery (Telefeld) (s) (8320) 10.00 News and weather (Teletext) (17542)

10.30 HTV West Headlines (936756) 10.40 Entertaining Mr Wedlock. Wedlock discovers why people compete in talent contests (863813)

1.10 FILM: Frankenstein Unbound (1990) staming John Hurt, Raul Julia and Bridget Fonda. A scientist from the 21st century i ransported back in time to 19th-century Switzerland where he meets Dr Frankeastien, who claims to have unravelled the life-giving secrets of the universe by creating a man-like monster. Directed by Roger Corman (142813)

12.40 Hotel Babylon (s) (8884837) 1.20 The Good Sex Guide . . . Late (s) (4568837) 2.20 The Jacksons: An American Dream (r) (s) (124009) 4.05 The Queen Elizabeth Charity Concert (6103498) 5.00 On the Live Side (88278) 5.30 Morning News (90835)

As HTV WEST except: 2.50pm-3.20 The Programme (4082165) 6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (908233) 10.40 Friday Live (589207)

11.40 Hunter (808097) WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.25-12.30 My Story (2759610) 12.55 Coronation Street (7510349) 1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (99755392)

1,55 Home and Away (42977875) 2.25 High Road (30470320) 2.55-3.20 Gardeners' Diary (3002287) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9354639) 6,00-7.00 Westcountry Live (29875)

10,30 Westcountry News (936948) 10.45 Film: Cherry 2000 (1987). A lighthearted science-fiction adventure starring Melanie Griffith, David Andrews and Ben Johnson, Directed by Steve De Jamatt (34872639)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55 Home and Away (7510349) 1.25 Chain Letters (99755392) 1.55 A Country Practice (94300368) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9354639) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather

19082331 10.40 Central Weekend (98724148) 2.20am The Chart Show (4779011) 3.15 Dear Nick (9286721) 4.10 Jobfinder (4640905)

5,20 Asian Eye (8676905) MENDAR

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 Chain Letters (7510349) 1.55 A Country Practice (94300368) 5.10 Home and Away (9354639)

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - Your Story (485981) 6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (29875) 10.00 News at Ten; Weather (17542) 10.40 Only a Game (863813) 11.10 The Brits Uncut (142813)

5.00am Freescreen (88276)

Starts: 6.25 The Wonderful Wizard Of (6434436) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (27558) 9.00 Fifteen to One (94691) 9.30 Yagolion: The Mbx (9718146) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (9819829) 10.00 Fourways Ferm (7523146) 10.10 Eurokids (8020397) 10.25 The Technology Programme (5003900) 10,40 Off Limits (9670368) 11.05 The Mix (6450184) 11.20 Stage One (6448349) 11.35 Schools at 11.20 Siage One (6448349) 11.35 Schools at Work (4017320) 11.40 How We Used to Live (4027349) 12.00 Sesame Street (21233) 1.00pm Slot Meithrin (24417) 1.30 Blue Wilderness (41097) 2.00 Diplomatic Courier (421436) 3.45 Jimmy's (102349) 4.15 Waterways (633894) 4.45 5 Pump: Bill (4011078) 5.00 5 Pump: Annwyl Garners (1707) 5.00 Newyddion (105962) 6.75 Heno (657097) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm. (131558) 7.25 Cyngerdd Y Cettlaid (4651900) 8.30 Newyddion (8261) 9.00 Cyngerdd Y Cettlaid (6962) 10.00 Brookside (15184) 10.30 Mark Thomas Comedy (103894) 11.05 The Girlle Thomas Comedy (103894) 11.05 The Girlle Show (912639) 11.55 T.F.I. Friday (909455) 1.00mm Beavis and Butt-Head (13450) 1.30

PARTIE 6.35am The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (r) (s)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (27558)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletaxt) (s) (94891) 9.30 Schools: The Mix (9718146) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (9819829) 10.00 Four-ways Farm (7523146) 10.10 Eurokids (8020397) 10.25 Technology Pro-gramme (5003900) 10.40 Off Limits (9670368) 11.05 The Mix (6450184) 11.20 Stage One (6448349) 11.35 Schools at Work (4017320) 11.40 How We Used to Live (4027349)

12.00 Fruity Stories (r) (Teletext) (s) (14455) 12.30pm Sesame Street (33271) 1.30 Cam-berwick Green (r) followed by The Herbs (r) (41097)

2.00 FILM: Woman in a Dressing Gown (1957) with Yvonne Mitchell, Anthony Cuayle and Sylvia Sims. The statternly wife of an executive drives her husband of 20 years into the arms of a younger woman, Directed by J. Lee Thompson (Teletext) (421436)

3.45 Jammy's (r) (Telelext) (s) (102349) 4.15 Countdown Final (Teletext) (s) (7912813) 5.00 Cutting Edge (r) (Taletext) (s) (1707)

6.00 T.F.I. Friday. Chris Evans with guests Jarvis Cocker, Pulp, Space and Garbage (9) (27417)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletaxt) (378748) 7,55 Book Choice. Will Self reviews The Debt to Pleasure by John Lanchester. (Teletext) (s) (383639)

8.00 Fruity Stories. (Teletext) (s) (1184)

8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (8261) 9.00 Cytoliii. Ira invites Cytoili to accompany him on an all-expenses-paid trip to London when his book is sold to a film company (Teletext) (s) (6558)



Morgan, O'Hanion, Kelly (9,30pm)

9,30 Father Ted. Comedy about three Irish priests. Starring Dermot Morgan, Ardai O'Hanlon and Frank Kethy (Teletext) (s) (22962) 19.90 Rossenne. Possenne spends a legacy

on a tancy dinner for the whole family (Teletext) (s) (15184) 10.30 The Mark Thomas Comedy Product.

For the lest programme of the series Thomas plans to bet the programme's budget on a horse. If it wins, the show will go ahead. If the horse loses, he and the crew will do the programme from his front room (Teletext) (s) (103894) 11.05 The Girlie Show (s) (912639)

11.55 T.F.I. Friday. (r) (s) (909455) 1.00am Beavis and Butt-Head (s) (13450) 1.30-4.00 FILM: Burke and Wills (1985) with Jack Thompson and Nigel Havers. A dramatic reconstruction of the doorned 1860 trans-Australia expedition by Robert O'Hara Burke and John Wills. Directed by

Graeme Clifford (Teletext) (s) (356585)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday SKY ONE

7,00am Botted Spg and Soldiers (46436) 8,30 Press Your Lubb (5631542) 8,50 Lowe Connection (4856829) 9,20 Court TV (6849691) 9,50 The Opeah Whitely Show (1486900) 10,40 Jeopardy! (6743610) 11,10 Sally Jessy Rephatel (583981) 12,00 Beechy (8) (689) 1,00pm Hotel (63297) 2,00 Geraldo (38146) 3.00 Court TV (3953) 3.30 The Oprah Wintrey Show (5566788) 4.15 Undun (1421981) 5.00 Star Trek. The Next Generation (4812) 8.00 The Simpsone (8504) 6.30 Jeopardyl (2184) 7.00 (APD (5542) 7.30 M*A*S*H (8368) 8.00 Aus Hidding (1962) 8.30 Coppers (5177) 9.00 Walker, Te-as Renger (17078) 10.00 Star Trek. The Next Generation (10165) 11.00 Melrose Place (87900) 12.00 Late Show (7949009) 12.45am The Unfouchables (4191672) 1.30 Daddy Dearest (45672) 2.00-7.00 Ht Mix Long Play (1869199)

SKY NEWS

News on the notal 9.30am Century (62559) 10.30 ABC 9.30am Century (62559) 10.30 ABC Notaling (41523) 1.30pm CBS News Tries Morrorg (62417) 2.30 Parliament (5417) 3.30 The Lords (9702) 5.00 Live at Five (2445) 5.30 Tonight with Adem Boulton (2445) 5.30 Tonight with Adem Boulton (245) 5.30 Tonight with Adem Boulton (245) 5.30 Tonight with Adem Boulton (245) 5.30 Tonight (9610) 8.30 The 19946) 7.30 Sportstine (9610) 8.30 The Emertamment Show (8639) 11.30 CBS Evenung News (57271) (47856) 12.30am ABC World News Torught (90450) 1.30 Torught with Adam Boulion Replay (43214) 7.30 ABC World News Tonight

SKY MOVIES

8.00am Angels with Dirty Faces (1938) (32707) 8.00 Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (1954) (52706) 10.00 Walking Thunder (1953) (68307) 12.00 Oh, Heavenly Dog! (1968) (12549) 2.00pm Vital enty Dog! (1968) (12549) 2.00pm Vital enty Dog! (1968) (12749) 8.00 Walking Percent (1968) (1277) 8.00 Walking Thunder (1953) (14981) 8.00 Newt Eden Stancing Dot Necotion (92176436) 12 20am The Killer (1989) Violent Huller set in Hong Fong Directed by John Woo 196750) 2.10 Brainscan (1994) 126769) 2.10 Brainscan 6510818) 3.40-6.00 Secret Sins of the

SKY MOVIES GOLD

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00em Road to Hong Kong (1962) (30349) 8.00 The Three Worlds of Gulliver (1959) (50368) 10.00 Salion Bewere (1952) (64962) 12.00 Bright Eyes (1934) (3369) 2.00pm Keep Yeur Sents Please (1936) (36977) 4.00 The Three Worlds of Gulliver (1959) (1977) 8.00 Coulds Destite Toll and Trouble (1983) Please (1935) (36977) 4.00 The Three Worlds of Guilliver (1959) (1977) 5.00 Couble, Double, Toll and Trouble (1993) (77510) 7.30 UK Top Ten (1078) 8.00 Lible Nices Nitilions (1992) (2556) 10.00 Striking Distance (1993) (322078) 11.45 Menses Il Society (1993) (32455) 1.20em Strapped (1993) (501857) 3.05 Villa Ridest (1969) (47771295) 5.10-6.00 The Little Princess (1959) (3174106) THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movine Gold takes over from 10pm Sky Movine Gold Safes over from 10pm to 4am.

8.00em Under the Umbasia Tree (70821981) 8.30 Fraggle Rock (6083455) 7.00 The New Advantures of Winnie the Pools (53407184) 7.30 Ducktales (5348689) 8.00 Chip '' Dala Rescue Rangers (91338293) 9.30 The Advantures in Wonderland (91337894) 9.00 Walt Deney Presents (70010879) 4.00 In Wonderland (91337894) 9.00 Wan Liewy Presents (70910829) 10.00 Under the Umbretta Trea (80874707) 10.30 Fraggle Rock (91420559) 11.00 Muppet Babes (54550891) 11.30 Welcome to Pools Camer (54550891) 200 Crusck Attack (91331610) 12.30pm Dumbo's Orcus (24117894) 1.00 The Adventures in Wonderland (53406455) 130 Film: Two Tickets to Broadway (11739233) 3,30 The New Advenures of Wirnis the Pooh (8859627) 4,00 Cludo, Arrack (88586278) 4,30 Cubta(bs (88571962) 5,00 Cyberstar (61985436)

EUROSPORT 7.38am Olympic Magazine (26271) 8,00 Aurobes (55564) 9,00 Powerliting (692251 10,00 Wresting (24455) 11,00 Football (47145) 12,30pm Eurokin (65726) 1,00 Termis (66854) 3,00 Motorcycling (1412815) 3,55 News (4430362) 4,00 Live

6.30 Stock with Me, Nat (83653417) 7.38. Hollywood Lives (88572691) 8.00-10.00 FILM: The Ernest Green Story (37259271)

Formule 1 (14417) 5.00 International Motorsports Report (4198233) 5.55 News (61149) 6.00 Live Terms (50707) 8.00 Live Equestransm (1366823) 9.50 Eurosport News (241964) 19.00 Formula 1 (47287) 11.00 Olympic Magazine (15146) 11.30-12.30um Pro Wiesling (26542) SKY SPORTS

7.00am Say Sports Centre (21368) 7.30
Racing News (7222) 8.00 World Wresting
Federation Action Zone (10436) 9.00
International Pugby Union — Live: Hong
Kong Sevens (7804813) 2.00gart Boots 'n'
Al (74982) 2.00 Ford Scorpe Golf USA
(187504) 6.00 Say Sports Centre (95349)
7.00 Super League — Liver Paris v Shelfield
(33793184) 9.25 Say Sports Centre (963487) 9.30 International Ciciete: West
inclies v New Zealand (252097) 12.00 Say
Sports Centre (82030) 1.00am Super
League (241479) 2.45 International Rugby
Union — Live Hong Kong Sevens
(9045855)

SKY SPORTS 2 7,00pm Ford Scorpio USPGA Golf Tour (3031788) 8,00 Ford Scorpio USPGA Golf (9451981) 11,00 International Rugby Union (7289417) 12,30mm-1,00 Inside the PGA or Tour (5981585)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL 4.00em Linnig World 5.00 Kermeth Copeland 5.30 Kidz TV 5.45 General Christian Entertairment 6.15 Colin Dye-Wales Up Europe 8.45-7.00 Music SKY SOAP

7.00mm Gurding Light (5583436) 7.55 As the World Turns (5583368) 8.50 Peyton Place (5839417) 9.20 Days of Our Lives (7991436) 10.10-11.00 Another World (5791436) 10.10-11.00 Another World SKY TRAVEL 11,00am Goberrotte (4813510) 11,30 American Vacation (4377994) 12,30pm Food of China (9478510) 1,00 Getaway (1517891) 1,30 Great Escapes (9477981) 2,00 E Report (4912349) 2,30 Chisang (2747964) 3,00 Globetrotte (4924184) 3,30

nd the World (7755146) 3.55-4.00

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

Glenda Jackson, George Segal in A Touch of Class (Bravo, 10pm)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1.00mm Swamp Thing (3970189) 1.30 Ray Brackury Theolie (2807108) 2.00-4.00 Ferr The Tring (2409837)

9.00mm The Joy of Painting (7802233) 9.30 Gardeners' Dary (2336675) 10.00 Two's Country (3462097) 10.30 Cur House (7806417) 11.00 Room Service (2456962) 11.30 Running Repairs (2459961) 12.00 Julia Child (7822097) 12.30pm The Ptugal Gournet (2332691) 1.00 Yan Can Cook 18522439 1 20 Gardina to So (2331962) [1512342] 1.20 Furniture to Go (2331982) 2.00 Dogs with Dunbar (4258707) 2.30 Slars and Gerders (6633556) 1.00 Turo's Country (4280542) 3.30-4.00 This Old House (8532875) UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (3600679) 7.30 Naighbours (4156964) 8.00 Sone and Daughters (7821508) 8.30 EastEnders (7820639) 9.00 The 9a (7804871) 9.30 The Sulfivens (2300239) 10.00 Bergents (8755628) 11.00 Bultiseye (2450329) 11.30 Odd One Out (2468349) 12.00 Sone and Daughters (7824459) 12.30ps in highbours (2341349) 1.00 EastEnders (3899389) 1.35 Syles

[1687813] 2.15 The Liver Birds (1304639) 2.50 Terry and June (7821146) 3.30 The Bill (5534233] 4.00 Casualty (2474900) 5.00 Serry Sacond Counts (2003656) 5.45 'Alio 'Alio! (1)166875) 8.25 EastEnders (6096786) Aug (7) poor of 9.22 East-ties (east-tel) 7.00 The Best of Top of the Pops (9623146) 8.00 Bulkeye (4343829) 8.30 To the Manor Born (4259438) 9.00 Lymon's Derry (9725658) 10.00 The Bir (114252) 10.36 Filtry, Rich and Califep (6112558) 11.38 Filtri, Westward (2614459) 1.10em Cerus

6.00am Amazing Live Sea Morkbys (47417) 6.30 Pugwall (65349) 7.00 Ready or Not (67438) 7.30 Callornia Dreams (23441) 8.00 Sweet Valley High (76268) 8.30 Baby Folkes (4603271) 8.45 Dhotostates (4666078) 8.05 Victor and Marta (5165629) 9.29 Rose and Jim (5056146) 9.40 Bump the Dephani (8905661) 9.30 The Cangler (8904165) 10.00 Tiny and Crew (5331542) 10.20 The Adventuros of Spot (8609097) 10.30 Gran (8635271) 10.40 10 + 2 (8840953) 11.00 Sesame Street (85691) 12.00 Barney and Francis (1689436) 12.35pm Victor and Maria (59980565) 12.35pm Victor and

Jim Heneon's Animal Si Oscar's Orchestra (7707) 3.30 The New Pirk Panther Show (9894) 4.00 Californa Dipartie (1829) 4.30-5.00 Sweet Valley High

NICKELODEON

6.00cm Henry's Cal (4141233) 6.15 Blue (92384) 6.45 Toucan Te: (8410252) 7.00 Batilitik (7939843) 7.05 Gimmy (4450320) 7.45 Rugata/Doug (928349) 8.15 Aashi Real Monsters (4801146) 8.30 Rocko (39613) 9.00 AMri (20165) 9.30 Playhouse (57184) 10.00 Baneria Sandwich (23659) 11.00 Children's BBC on Nickelodoon (12165) 2.00 Meac. School Bus (13859) 11.00 Children's BBC on Niclestodocon (17165) 12.00 Mags: School Buss (13829) 12.30per Carrery (61900) 1.00 Global Guts (1187) 1.00 Visionaries (6027) 2.00 Dungeors and Dragons (72504) 3.00 The Wild Side Show (48911 3.30 Mighty Max (3078) 4.00 Fish and Chips and Jo Raz (5813) 4.30 Rugnels and Doug (1097) 5.00 Setes Sister (6436) 5.20 Odyssey III (2349) 6 00 December 2007) 6.30 7.00 April (2349) you Alrad of the Dark (SSA2)

DISCOVERY

BRAVO

4.00pm Time Travellers (6544610) 4.30 Parametes (6540894) 5.00 Trasaure Hum-ers (4345287) 5.30 Terra X (6531148) 5.00 Voyager (6834287) 6.30 Beyond 2000 (6165148) 7.30 Anthus C Clarke's Mysteri-cus Universe (6541523) 8.00 Jurassica 2 (9630436) 9.00 Wings Over the World (9643900) 10.00 Clasack Wheels (6785287) vs 90.13 40 December Propositions

12.00 FLM: The Night of the Hunter (3542297) 2.00pm Feturn of the Soint (3450252) 3.000 Derger Man (2457233) 4.00 FLM: That Sniking Feeling (4569184) 8.00 Danger Man (6558813) 8.30 The Gossilo Shoot (4768352) 7.30 Sopphre and Sale (8543349) 8.00 Ratin of the Saint (9670952) 9.00 UFO (8647726) 10.00-13.00 Ell M. 8.70 Feeling (47695829) 10.00-13.00 Ell M. 8.70 Feeling (47695829) 12.00 FiLM: A Touch of Class (2456504)

PARAMOUNT

7.00am Berson (9900) 7.30 Family Ties (2726) 8.00 Entertainment Tonight (5320) 8.30 Wings (4455) 9.00 Soap (16875) 9.30 Laverne and Shirley (58436) 10.00 Enter-

Pairment Tonght (14558) 10.30 Home Court (27076) 11.00 Home Court (11320) 11.00 Bob (73267) 12.00 American Dream-(23672) 12.30gm The Odd Couple (43565) 1.00 Wings (49524) 1.30 Sosp (86030) 2.00 Levene and Striney (8394) 2.30 Entertainment Tonght (62450) 3.00 Home Court (29150) 3.30-4.00 Home Court (29150) 3.30 Home Court (29150) 4.30 Home Court (29150) 4.3

UK LIVING

6.00mm Agony Hour (9044639) 7.00 kitroy (1546097) 8.00 Esther (8827271) 8.30 Gerdeners' World (8826542) 8.00 Massertinel 92 (9493078) 9.35 Kate and Alte (6457252) 10.05 The Jenry Springer Show (6080252) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (8664981) 11.55 Food and Drink (8382418) 12.30 per Dangerous Women (7395542) 1.25 Crosswitz (7734523) 2.00 Agony Hour (5051078) 3.00 Live at Three (4486529) 4.00 Intervation UK (4866788) 4.30 Crosswitz (1467815) 6.06 Lingo (83801078) 5.30 Lucky Ledders (4871252) 6.00 Bewitched (4878165) 6.30 On the Bed with Pauls (6110455) 7.06 The Reluctant with Paula (6410455) 7.08 The Re with Pauls (6410455) 7.06 The Reluctary Cook (9998707) 7.40 The Joker's Wild (4957097) 8.05 The Young and the Resiless (1195233) 9.00 Fil.M: Switching Channels: Cornedy with Kathleen Turner and But Reynotic (61728639) 10.65 Entertainment Nowl (1127349) 11.00-12.00 The Enge-nous Zone (7848987)

FAMILY CHANNEL 5.00pm Teen Win, Lose or Draw (2252) 5.30 Night Hood (333542) 5.35 Setman (576523) 6.30 Catchphrase (2558) 7.00 (57652) 6.30 Carchphrase (2558) 7.00 m/sl Pursuh (9789) 7.30 Jeke and Ihe Kid (90542) 8.30 Only When I Laugh (4441) 9.00 The Ruth Rendell Mystenes: The Speaker of Mandarin (80962) 10.00 Treesure Hunt (80349) 11.00 Sirens (73964) 12.00 Jake and Ihe Kid (93160) 1,00am Salman (78450) 1.30 GP (90978) 2.00 The Black Stellon (35055) 2.30 Alincan Stees (15568) 2.00 [798214] 9.30 The Black Stellon (55057) 4.00 Alincan Stees (15568) 2.00 [798214] 9.30 The Black Stellon (55057) 4.00 Alincan Stees (15568) 2.00 [798214] 9.30 The Black Station (57978) 4.00 Alrican Stres (10011) 4.30-5.00 Teen Win, Lose or Draw (99943)

7.30am Long Form (81829) 8.00 Morning Mix (273900) 11.00 Dance Floor Charl (94349) 12.00 Greatest His (86697) 1.00pm Music Non-stop (62252) 3.00 Video Litie Box (59556) 4.00 Hanging Out (3861) 6.00 Dial http://daiby.6.30 MTV News (8789) 7.00 Dence Floor Charl (93436) 8.00 Evering Mth. (18417) 8.30 Amour (75146) 10.30 Singled Out (58962)

11.00 Party Zone (54981) 1.00 Night Videos (3185127) 5.00-7.30 Morning Mix VH-1 7.00em Power Breaklast (1516962) 9.00 Cale Vi+1 (3464763) 12.00 Heart and Sooi (946875) 1.00pm The Vinyl Years (9475523) 2.00 Ten of the Beet; Justin (9498430) 2.00 Into the Music

Heyward (848639) 3.00 Into the Music (7008981) 6.00 Happy Hour (9568287) 7.00 VH-1 for You (3033146) 8.00 Bearchub '80s (4927271) 8.30 Planet Rock Profiles: REM (4913078) 9.00 Ten of the Best: Sandie Standie (31355568) 10.00 The Vinty Years (3032417) 11.00 Around and Around (1536726) 12.00 The Mightify Rocks (8302740) 2.00em Caum Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm on satellite, 24-hours on cable broucing 5.00pm Saturday Nie Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket ZEE TV

7.00cm Jeagran (52291962) 7.30 Zee Precents (16532145) 9.00 Stin Kristma (84886455) 9.30 Face to Face (33677768) 10.00 Benegi April Baat (7537338) 10.30 Undu Serral. Ashat (27537287) 11.30 Bengali FRM: Swerral Stiker Prangare (95727287) 2.30pm Bureyaad (70058726) 3.00 Hinta Serial Brazali Ek Khol. (56596910) 4.00 Video Junction (70049076) 4.30 Khell Time (7003982) 5.00 Zee Zone (11171813) 5.30 It's My Show (70052542) 6.00 Zabaan Samithal Ke (70059455) 6.30 Zee and U (700409707) 7.00 BBCD Zee end U (70040707) 7.00 (BBCD) (11166349) 7.30 Namaste India (70059691) 8.00 News (11) 77097) 8.30 Antekehari (11156504) 9.00-12.00 Hindi FILM: Anie,sh

CARTOON NETWORK/INT Continuous cortoons from 5em to 7pm, 7.00cm Le Ballon Rouge (1956) (37244349) 8.00 Theme: Hepburn/Tracy Double Bill (20019610) 8.00 Adams' Rib (1948) (37257813) 10.00 Pet and Mills (1952) (21984287) 11.40 Tribute to a Bad Mam (1956) (32129726) 1.00cm Candib-light in Algeria (1944) (49902295) 2.30-5.00 Adaps* Fib (1949) (52521382)

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is





FRIDAY MARCH 29 1996

Winter disruptions and new safety rules leave smallest Aintree field for 26 years

National contenders frozen out



Osborne crashes to the ground, breaking his left collar-bone, as his mount, Black Humour, falls on the first day of the Aintree meeting yesterday. The horse was unhurt. Photograph: Ian Stewart

By RICHARD EVANS RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE smallest field since 1970 will line up for the Martell Grand National at Aintree minute defections. Lo Stregone, who had been a wellbacked second favourite, was the surprise absentee as 28 runners were declared yester-

day for the 42-mile chase. More than 80 horses had training schedules and caused the cancellation of many meetings, the number of runners has reduced dramatically.

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aimed at enhancing safety, but which imposed a higher level of minimum ability, also prevented some horses from going for the world's most famous steeplechase. Killeshin, who has improved dramatically this year and won the Eider Chase at Newcastle last month - a race won by Highland Wedding in 1969 before landing the National was one horse who failed to

meet the new entry criteria. The maximum field of 40 the last II years but with Lo Stregone being joined on the sidelines yesterday by Tartan Tyrant, Dextra Dove and A change in the entry rules Toogood To Be True, the final

field is the same size as 26 years ago, when Gay Trip won. This year's field - if the ability of the top weight, supposedly the best horse in the race, is as an accurate guide — is also the poorest in terms of quality since Hallo Dandy won in 1984.

Rough Quest, 33-1 when the weights were published seven eks ago, is 9-2 favourite after finishing second in the Cheltenham Gold Cup earlier this month. However, book-Finish to start as favourite. Corals bet: 9-2 Rough Quest, 7-1 Young Hustler, 8-1 Superior Finish, 9-1 Son Of War, 10-1 Life Of A Lord, Deep Bramble, Party Politics, 14-1 Lusty Light, Wylde Hide, 20-1 others.

The defection of Lo Stregone was the start of a miserable

THE RUNNERS

day for Jamie Osborne, who year-old chaser. Yesterday, on the opening afternoon of the Aintree meeting the Lambourn jockey suffered a fall on Black Humour and broke his left collar-bone. To make matters worse, the injury cost Osborne a winning ride on Ask Tom in the next race,

although that victory provided some consolation for his trainer. Tom Tate, who also looks after Lo Stregone.

"It's been a wretched 24 hours with Lo Stregone but at least Ask Tom's win offers us some compensation," Tate said. "Lo Stregone has got equine flu. He has a temperature and is very quiet and not eating, which is quite unusual. It is very disappointing as I thought he was a real National horse, but that's

While the small National field may disappoint the purist, it could come to the aid of the punter. The National Lottery has had a dramatic impact on betting on horse racing — off-course turnover on the Cheltenham Gold Cup was down by 20 per cent this

been very emotional for us.

With nothing to aim for, the

club will have no future and

replaced by anger which is being channelled into a cam-

paign to overturn the verdict. The issue has united many of

the Orkneys' 19,500 residents

who feel slighted; a special

resolution was passed by the

Island Council yesterday to

ask the convenor, Hugh

Halcro-Johnston, to write a

letter of protest to Jain Todd,

the SRU president, and a petition has been raised. Legal

challenges are being considered, while the club has the

necessary backing of clubs to

force a special meeting of the

SRU, an avenue it intends to

ushbrook said:"We ac-

Rept it is not easy getting to the Orkneys,

but we are only talking about

one game per club per season.

We have already spent

£10,000 this season in travel

expenses, but to play competi-

tive sport in the Orkneys you

have to put up with situations

four seasons, and now cham-

pions of the North District

league which is centred

around Aberdeen, an away

game is a major undertaking.

It involves boats, coaches and

in exceptional circumstances

flights or the charter of a

plane. Simply to reach the

mainland involves a two-hour

ferry journey; games further

afield are three days round

As a member, for the past

like that'

explore on Monday.

Emotion has now been

year - and the big bookmakers are desperately hoping the once-a-year punters who have a bet on the National will help to buck the trend.

"I think turnover will probably be about the same," Mike Dillon, of Ladbrokes, said. "It is still the No I race for the British public and we hope turnover will hold up at around 560 million because the once-a-year punter will have a bet." After a Cheltenham Festival

backers, with only one winning favourite, the National meeting began in similar vein with winners at 10-1, 20-1 (twice) and 33-1 - and most favourites failing to reach the

While winning the Grand National remains the dream

Benn back

decision leaves way clear for Lloyd By SIMON WILDE ... FEARS that England would

Emburey's

encounter difficulty attracting coaching position - which carries a guaranteed term of office of only six months - were realised yesterday when one of the leading contenders, John Emburey. from the running. His decision appeared to leave the field clear for David Lloyd, of Lancashire, whose appoint ment may now quickly follow. In explaining his reasons, Emburey said he felt he needed more experience in cricket management and coaching before working with the nat-ional team, a task he described as his "fervent desire and ambition".

He has so far only managed an England A team on one tour, to Pakistan last winter, though he has just started a four-year coaching contract with Northamptonshire. Also thinking, however, would be the knowledge that the England job carried no long term security, unlike his post with Northamptonshire, which is believed to be worth £200,000. Had Emburey asked to leave, the county would not have stood in his way and had already agreed to a request from the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) on Tuesday to interview him. The matter of whether John wished to be regarded as a candidate lay with the individual himself," Steve Coverdale, the county secretary, said.

The club will continue to support and give encourage-ment to him so that he gains the necessary experience which the club believes will help him to benefit the national cause in the future."

The TCCB has deliberately left itself the freedom to alter England's management at the end of the summer so that it can take account of the recommendations of David Actield's working party into how the team is run.

Acfield yesterday announced the other members of Mike Gatting and Micky Stewart, who were England's first captain-manager pair and the party is made up of David Gower, another former England captain, Bob Bennett, the Lancashire chair-Black day, page 43 man, and Tim La Form guide, page 43 act as secretary. man, and Tim Lamb, who will

of most National Hunt jock-

eys, not every rider enjoys the

unconditional support of their

families in their quest for fame

and glory. Jonothan Lower,

who won the opening race on

Tragic Hero, is due to ride Chatara in the big race tomor-

row - much to annoyance of

"Everybody who is a jockey wants to ride in the National

but my mum is not happy with it," Lower, 28, said. "She'll be

at work on Saturday in a

Mare and will wait for the

result and watch the race on-

video later. She never watches

me live and would be happier

if I was just watching the race as well."

his mother.

Fry acts to lift bare market

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

FOOTBALL transfer deadline day in England, an often frantic series of wheeling and dealing, passed off with barely a whimper yesterday. At least Barry Fry, the Birmingham City manager and self-ap-pointed king of the dealers, tried to inject a bit of life into the proceedings by buying back Paul Peschisolido, the Stoke City striker, for £400,000 only three minutes

at Maine Road.

Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds United manager, had Wallace to return to Southampton only for Wallace to turned down a bid of £3.5 million, made by Everton, for

Orkney cut adrift by rugby rebuff

Mark Souster finds island club angry

over a decision to deny it promotion

n its brief but eventful spreading of rugby and the wellbeing of all its members

Just as Orkney's hopes were about to be realised, with the likelihood of promotion from district to national league rugby for the first time, the SRU has declared that whatever the outcome of next month's play-offs to determine who will enter division seven - Orkney will not be promoted.

on Collins By Srikumar Sen

BOXING CORRESPONDENT

NIGEL BENN will be back in the ring in June against Steve Collins, of Ireland, the World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight champion, after the shortest retirement in history. The bout will most likely

be held in London. Only 26 days ago, immediately after losing his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title to Thulane Malinga, of South Africa, Benn announced that he was calling it a day.

Benn, the former champion now believes that he can carry on for another three years. Given a challenge, he could become his old self again, he said: Collins was just that. Indeed, Benn felt confident enough to take on Collins without a warm-up contest.

Benn said: "I was going to stay in retirement, but since he's [Frank Warren, the promoter | mentioned Collins, it looks like I've got to go for it. I'm not going out a loser."

Benn said that he had not done the things expected of him against Malinga. "It wasn't me in the ring," he said. "I trained too hard and left it all in the gym. I need someone who's going to put fear in me and Collins is a good fighter. He did something I couldn't do - beat Chris Eubank twice. Collins is right up my street. He ain't got to look for me and I ain't got to look for him. "I feel naked without my

belt," Benn said. "People ask for my autograph and I have to put 'former champion'," On the same bill, Malinga will defend his title and the winners could then meet to unify the championship.

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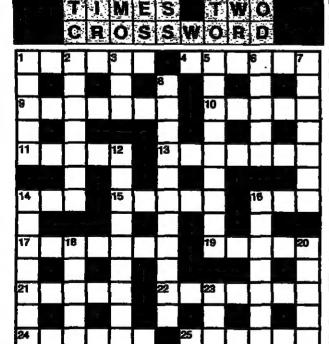
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DOWN

ment (5)

3 Ventilate (3)

2 Make reply (7)

I Small shoot; fabric orna-

5 Type of Scottish reel (9)

6 Talk boringly; type of bee

7 (Formation) made circular

12 Self-regarding Greek youth

16 Working surface; contradict

8 Everlasting life (11)

14 After 1945 (4-3)

(7)

No 742

Group of selected pupils (6) Pasture (6) Platform (7) 16 Small wood; music dictio-

11 Raised; sounds like cry of

nary founder (5)

pain (5) 13 Be bought in greater quantities (than) (7) Room of one's own; walk

softly (3) 15 Proportion (5) 16 Dishonourable chap (3) 17 Woodcutting factory (7)

19 Escape from (5) 21 Text; angry speech (5) 22 Pig's foot (7)

24 Unoriginal, reworked mate-

18 Value (5) 20 Safety elec. connection (5) 25 Front of fireplace (6) 23 Lyric poem (3)

The solution to 741 will be published Wednesday, April 3

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before the 5pm deadline. Peschisolido, 24, joined Stoke for £700,000 two years ago, but has been frequently courted by Fry in the intervening period. The Canada international is married to Karren Brady, the managing director of Birmingham. Peschisolico is Fry's 55th signing for the

Of the 16 permanent moves yesterday, totalling £4.65 million, and 24 loan deals, that of Mikhail Kavelashvili, from Spartak Vladikavkaz, the Russian league champions, to Manchester City, provided the largest outlay. Alan Ball, the City manager, paid £1.4 million for the striker, who will join Georgiou Kinkladze, his fellow Georgia international,

Close behind, on £1 million, Blackburn Rovers rubberstamped their purchase of Gary Croft, the Grimsby Town and England Under-21 full back.

agreed a £1 million fee for Rod decide that he was better off at Elland Road. Wilkinson also Gary Speed.

history, Orkney Rugby Football Club has known good and bad times; but adversity has been overcome with the resolve that is characteristic of an island people Isolated it may have been, but the club, formed in 1966, soldiered on, feeling secure under the umbrella of the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) based 300 miles to the south in Edinburgh. The governing body's mantra has been the

- now it seems no longer.

The reasons cited - the extreme difficulty and expense of travel to and from the island for opposing teams were conveyed to a disbelieving club committee on Tuesday by two SRU officials who flew in to announce a decision which, they said, had been taken after consultation with clubs in divisions six and seven. Some had complained that Orkney was an island too

"At a stroke everything we have worked towards and achieved has been wined out." Norman Rushbrook, the club president, said yesterday. "We felt hurt and insulted. The whole of Orkney does. It's to take